THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Librarians And Riders Get Exercised Over Muni's 1-Day Pass

By Denise Minor

Need to run an errand in the Mission District, then drop off something downtown and return home to Noe Valley on the bus?

It used to be that with a couple of Muni transfers you could do the entire circuit for \$1, the standard fare. But since the new no-transfer policy went into effect Oct. 1, the same trip now costs \$3.

That is, unless you get hold of a one-day pass for \$2.25. However, that task—at least within the confines of Noe Valley—is no easy feat.

"Where do we have to go to get a day pass? Oakland?" joked Muni rider Karol Barske, who lives on Sanchez Street. "Really, it seems that hard."

In upper Noe Valley, Diamond Heights Safeway and Veterans' Liquors, on Church near 29th, sell the passes. But in "downtown" Noe Valley—meaning the general vicinity of 24th Street—the only place that sells the day pass is the neighborhood library on Jersey near Castro. This is a problem for both Muni riders and the library staff.

For one thing, the Noe Valley Library is open only five days (make that 30 hours) a week. And the hours are not exactly commuter-friendly: 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 6 p.m. on Tuesday; 1 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday; and 1 to 6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday.

What's more, the library's employees are husy enough without the added burden of dispensing bus tickets.

"This is definitely an imposition," said



Flashback to the Meat Market

The place was dimly lit, but the spirit of the Meat Market Coffeehouse was burning brightly in the 1970s, when this photo of poet David Frankel (and friend) was snapped by comrade-inprose Ed Buryn. For more nostalgia, see pages 21–24.



Children's Librarian Carol Small shoulders an additional burden at the Noe Valley Library these days: selling the newly created one-day Muni passes. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

Head Librarian Roberta Greifer, after two weeks of participating in the program. "It's like asking bus drivers to accept library books that people need to return."

Her customers are getting impatient, too, "In the last 10 minutes, four people have come in to buy passes. They all left upset because we don't have anymore," Greifer said.

The Noe Valley Branch received 50 the previous week, and ran out of them

quickly, "We called Muni to tell them we needed some more, but they haven't brought us any."

Selling the passes isn't the only hassle, said Greifer. Librarians must write down the serial number of the pass, the sale number, make change, keep the money separate, and sign their name next to each transaction.

"People also ask us questions, like how

Continued on Page 4

All Bets Are Off at Noe's Bar and Grill

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

Wayne Basso, owner of Noe's Bar and Grill since 1982, says he's "never been to a racetrack." Yet that hasn't stopped Noe Valley neighbors from joshing Basso about his possible affinity for betting.

Ever since an article on a sports betting ring with supposed ties to the Mafia appeared in the Aug. 22 San Francisco Examiner, Basso and his hrother Gaetano, who runs Noe's Grill, have been inundated with what Basso calls "cheap shots."

The article stated that "players often made first contact with the {betting} ring at such establishments as Noe's Bar & Grill," located at the corner of Church and 24th streets.

Basso says he's had absolutely no involvement with such an operation, but his customers keep "coming in and asking if they can place a bet or if we're Mafioso. It's fine for them to joke around, but I don't want people to get the wrong idea about me—that I'm a bookie or something."

Although Basso says the Examiner story hasn't adversely affected husiness, brother Gaetano reports that shortly after the article appeared, he came to the Grill one morning to find the word "Mañoso"

Continued on Page 2

St. Paul's High School Not Long for This World

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

The summer hefore teenager Virginia Calvo was to enter high school, her parents decided they'd heard enough about the violence, drug abuse, large class sizes, and low test scores plaguing San Francisco's public schools.

They wanted to enroll their daughter in St. Paul's High School, at 317 29th St., in the relatively peaceful outskirts of Noe Valley. But they felt they didn't have the funds to pay for a private education.

However, thanks to St. Paul's long-standing mission to "provide a preferential educational option for the poor," Calvo has been able to attend the school for the past three years on a partial scholarship. And she's not the only one. Each year the school arranges for close to 70 percent of its 225-member, all-female student body to receive financial aid in return for doing errands, filing, and other odd johs at the school.

Like most of her classmates, Calvo started school this September feeling optimistic about the year ahead. She was looking forward to serving as junior class secretary and working toward her career goal of becoming a biologist.

But in early October the bottom dropped out of her plans.

That's when the San Francisco Arch-



St. Paul's High School Principal Maureen O'Brien has been wringing her hands, trying to locate slots at other schools for her current undergraduates. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

diocese announced that it was permanently closing St. Paul's High School in June, because the 70-year-old school building could no longer meet the city's earthquake safety standards and the church was unable to afford necessary repairs.

\$2.6 Million Price Tag Too Steep

According to St. Paul's pastor, Mario Farana, who joined the parish July I, "This difficult decision was made because the \$2.6 million relocation and retrofit costs associated with the Unreinforced Masonry Building (UMB) ordinance were more than the parish could bear."

While the two buildings used by St. Paul's Elementary School, at 300 Valley St. and 1660 Church St., also require

evacuation and renovation under the ordinance, Farana said the parish and the Catholic archdiocese had made arrangements to temporarily relocate the elementary school to a building at St. John's Parish in the Mission, beginning with the 1994–95 school year.

In the meantime, they plan to repair one of St. Paul's school huildings for future elementary school use, at an estimated cost of \$3 million.

In addition to the school buildings, St. Paul's two convents and church cathedral also need to be upgraded. Farana said the cost of upgrading the cathedral to compliance would be in the neighborhood

Continued on Page 3

Rumors of Gambling A Cheap Shot

Continued from Page 1

scrawled in black marker across the door.

According to the Examiner piece, which was reported by staff writer Seth Rosenfeld, the betting operation, allegedly run from the Dominican Republic by

former San Franciscan and Balboa High School student Ron "The Cigar" Sacco, let players wager more than \$1 billion a year by phone.

But Rosenfeld, who declined to comment to the *Voice*, added that a hettor's first contact with the ring "was often in a Bay Area card room, a neighborhood diner or a corner pub."

He also reported that Sacco and 25 others were indicted in August "by a federal grand jury in San Francisco on charges of gambling, conspiracy and money faundering in what officials call the nation's largest-ever illegal sports hetting operation."

The article listed several San Francisco establishments, in addition to Noe's, at which initial contact with the ring was made. It also noted that in interviews with the Examiner, bartenders or managers at Noe's and these other establishments "said they had no knowledge of bookmaking on their premises."

In a letter to the editor which appeared in the Oct. 5 edition of the Examiner, Wayne Basso attempted to drive that point home: "There was no hookmaking or contact with bookmakers at my bar. Indeed, I can't tell you about private discussions among people. Certainly private discussions ahout betting probably occur in other places and possibly my place....

"As a result of this article, both my brother and I have been contacted by eustomers of long standing expressing their disbelief and, in some instances, their outrage that I was alteged to allow such illegal activity to occur at my place of business."

Basso speculated to the *Voice* that Noe's was implicated in the betting ring because Bobby "The Scarf" Stapleton, a small Bay Area bookie who frequently passed bets on to Sacco, was a regular at Noe's several years ago.

Although he died recently of cirrhosis of the liver, Stapleton, according to Basso, once owned Happy Donuts, located across the street from Noe's, and often came to Basso's establishment to visit a female friend who tended bar.

According to Basso, the woman bartender left Noe's a few years back and now lives near the Russian River.

LETTERS 29¢

Another Towing Trauma

Editor:

I read with glee your October articles regarding Walgreen's recent towing trend ["Walgreen's Clamps Down on Overtime Parkers," and "Voice Editor Unable to Resist Bargain; Car Towed"].

I was gratified not only to read editor Jane Underwood's clever prose, but also to realize that I was not the only Walgreen's shopper to have run one errand too many, only to race back to the Walgreen's parking lot to find that the very store in which I have probably spent enough money to have my name inscribed on an aiste had elected to have my car removed from its lot.



t feel compelled to bring to the attention of your readers some additional surprises in store for those whose moral transgressions include overstaying one's welcome in the Walgreen's parking lot.

First, not merely was my car towed, but my infant car seat, which was secured within my vehicle, was also confiscated, forcing me to transport my infant daughter in a vehicle without a car seat (itself a violation of the law) in order to retrieve my car.

I find it quite ironic that Walgreen's "policy" and subsequent actions placed me in the unfortunate position of having to cart an 8-month-old infant out to the not-too-user-friendly neighborhood of Evans and Third streets at dusk.

Moreover, the kindly gentleman at Golden State Towing, who assured me that he would be present upon my pre-announced arrival, demanded that I furnish \$90 in cash since he was "not sure" whether his credit card machine was working that evening. Unfortunately, he was nowhere to be found when I got there, dutifully armed with \$90 in cash and carrying a baby.

Due to my fuck in having a cousin with a car phone who escorted me to the towing garage, I was able to retrieve my car that evening. When I relayed my adventures to a Walgreen's manager the next day, I received only an apathetic shrug in response.

Incidentally, there was no warning notice placed upon my car, indicating that my duration in the parking lot had exceeded the allowable time.

> fda Kozinets Whitney Street

Starbucks Not His Cup of Coffee

Editor:

From several trips to Seattle and around the country, I have become familiar with the Starhucks cafes and products, both of which impress me with their style, quality, and service. However, I object to the recent appearance of a Starbucks outlet on 24th Street in Noe Valley ["Are We Filled to the Brim with Coffee Emporiums?" July/August Voice].

While the beautiful design of the 24th Street Starbucks certainly adds to the street, there is something unsavory about its entering into competition with the home-grown, family-run coffee stores that have been thriving there.

Interestingly enough, those coffee shops are still brimming with people and have lines out the door, while the Starbucks remains relatively quiet.

Could it be that this is our way of preserving the unique character of our neighborhood? The message to Starbucks and other chains seems clear: Put your stores downtown or in the malfs, and leave our neighborhoods to the locally owned, locally run businesses.

Steve Weitz Church Street



Unfair Slam of Werner Erhard

Editor:

Charles Levin's article about Steve Pressman and his book on Werner Erhard ["Est Founder Erhard 'Gets It' in Unauthorized Biography," October 1993] continues the media's brutalization of Erhard.

Pressman's anecdotal book, Outrageous Betrayal, is another example of the faiture of popular America to five up to the dictum that one is innocent until proven guilty. The book's publisher, St. Martin's Press, recently published an attack on Ted Kennedy. Happily this book has sold poorly. I can only hope the same for Pressman's mean-spirited attack.

Instead, people should read Jane Self's book, Sixty-Minutes: The Assassination of Werner Erhard. Self claims Werner's daughter Deborah made a false allegation on television's 60 Minutes that Werner molested her and raped her sister. Self tells us that the rest of Erhard's famity—his ex-wife, his son, and other daughters—believe Deborah lied. She also points out that Werner passed a lie-

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CO-PUBLISHERS AND EDITORS

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Karol Barske, Jeff Kaliss, Charles Kennard, Suzanne Scott, Jane Underwood

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS, DESIGNERS, AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jeanne Alexander, Larry Beresford, Loren J. Bialik, Melinda Breitmeyer, Ed Buryn, Kathy Dalle-Molle, Grace D'Anca, Michael Eisman, Riek Garner, Pamela Gerard, B.L. Green, Laura McHale Holland, Florence Holub, Janet Jacobs,

Trene Kane, Charles Levin, Michele Lynn, Denise Minor, Scott Paterson, Roger Rubin, Steve Steinberg, Beverly Tharp, Tom Wachs

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ILLUSTRATIONS BY KAROL BARSKE

detector test, establishing the truth of his denial of having sexually abused his daughters.

Werner was hardly a model father, often too busy for his family. He "nurtured and supported" his wives and children in the best way he knew. But there is another side of Werner Erhard, the side not presented in the media. Hundreds of former emptoyees, colleagues, and celebrities stand behind his work.

Unfortunately, those who are favorably impressed by Erhard often are not interviewed, and even if they are, their testimony is not used. I know that Pressman was given my name, and he never interviewed me.

Journalist John Poppy, former editor of the Saturday Review of Literature, was interviewed by Pressman and gave some positive views of Werner. His views were not presented in the book. Many of Erhard's former employees, friends, and supporters have had the same experience.

Werner Erhard's finances and investment

Continued on Page 4



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St. Paul's Students To Be Relocated Next Year

Continued from Page 1

of \$5.5 million and that until the repairs were made, the city ordinance stipulated that the church could be used no more than 12 hours a week.

"This ordinance has been on the books for a while," said Farana. "But the Loma Prieta Earthquake brought it to a head. The diocese was hoping for an extension, but it didn't happen. And the irony of this whole situation is that our buildings sustained only minor cosmetic damages during the earthquake.

"This is truly the end of an era," he continued. "These schools have been here since 1916. In the 1930s and 1940s, St. Paul's was the biggest Catholic educational complex west of Chicago. We had 1,200 children enrolled in grammar school and 400 girls in high school."

Staff and Students Mourn Loss

"I am absolutely devastated about the closing," says school secretary Cora Conkle, who along with her two sisters graduated from St. Paul's High School. "I wish something could be done."

So does Sister Karen Conover, assistant principal at the school for 14 years.

"I go through these different waves of emotion," she said. "The question in my mind is not about the building. We know we have to leave it. My question is about the process for determining the final closure. There was no option to phase out the school or move it to another site. And we at the school were not consulted about the decision."

"We were all crying and completely hysterical when we heard the news," recalls 16-year-old junior Carmen Fabiani. "We're like a family here. We're used to the teachers and the schedule, and the classes are just right for us."

Senior Jessika Garcia, 16, agrees. "It's been real hard on everyone. We learned what friendship and togetherness means at this school."

According to Father Farana, the archdiocese remains committed to providing an education for every St. Paul's High School student affected by the closure.

How this will be achieved is not clear, however, since the average tuition at the other high schools in the diocese is \$1,000 more than St. Paul's \$3,600 annual fee. In addition, only Immaculate Conception High School offers a broadbased curriculum similar to St. Paul's. The other high schools are strictly college and the schools are strictly college.

lege prep.
"ICA doesn't have room at its current facility for all our students," said Conover. "In my opinion, the single best solution at this point is to expand the ICA facility, because they have a similar student body and curriculum."



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Seniors Jessika Garcia (left) and Elsy Alvarez are unhappy about the fact that their alma mater will close this June. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

Goal of Serving the Poor Suffers

Since she got word of the school's closing, Sister Maureen O'Brien, who has served as principal at St. Paul's High School for the past 22 years, has been working nonstop to find schools for St. Paul's 180 juniors, sophomores, and freshmen to attend next year.

"I've been at numerous meetings with principals from other schools and administrators from the diocese to determine what we can do for the girls," she said.

O'Brien and others at St. Paul's are also anxious about the future of their mission, which has had as its primary focus serving the poor.

"Where is our ministry going to go?" she asked. "We've always said we can't say no to students because they are too poor or don't read well enough. Ours is a particular ministry that the church ought to be carrying out. It's crucial to the city. We can't lose the idea of an option for the poor. All the schools in the diocese provide a bit of this, but none with the density of St. Paul's.

"Ninety percent of our students are minorities and low-income families, and 94 percent of them go on to further education," she continued.

"St. Paul's has a zero dropout rate. We do a great job educationally, and we build community. We are a violence-free school. Students leave here with a strong value system."

Grammar School Enrollment Cut

Although St. Paul's Elementary School faculty are relieved that the school is being relocated rather than closed, the impending move has still caused trauma.

Because next year's temporary facility is smaller than the school's existing building, only 280 of the 475 children currently enrolled in the school will be able to continue at St. Paul's next year. Instead of having two sections of kindergarten through eighth grade, the school will offer just one section of each grade.

Having fewer students also means cutbacks among teachers and staff.

According to Sister Ann Cronin, the school's principal, St. Paul's Elementary will lose seven of its 17 instructors and 15 of its 45-member staff of teachers' aides and yard supervisors.

"All of our parents want to stay," she lamented. "Only about eight of 200 we've surveyed so far said they wouldn't be coming back next year. In fact, I was in tears this morning as I read some of the surveys. Lots of people wrote about how their whole family had gone to this school. They were married and had their children baptized at the church, and now their kids go to school here."

Cronin said first priority for enrollment would be given to the 135 students whose families belonged to St. Paul's Parish. Next in line would be those who belonged to a parish with no grammar school, and then came those students whose families had a long history at St. Paul's

Because the new space at St. John's, located on Mission Street near Bosworth, was previously an all-girl high school, St. Paul's Parish will have to foot a substantial remodeling bill to create hoys' bathrooms as well as larger classrooms. (St. Paul's Elementary is co-ed.) Cronin said the parish had not yet received estimates on the cost.

According to Farana, the parish will organize a committee within the next couple of months to assist in raising funds to help defray the cost of repairing the church and at least one of the school buildings. "We are all distressed about this situation," he said, "but we're grateful that we can at least maintain the grammar school."

Too Busy to Bake? Allow Me...

A sampling:

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- ~ Pumpkin Gingerbread Cake
- Old Wive's Tale Spice Cake
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- Orange Cranberry Cake

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Library Ready To Throw the **Book at Muni**

Continued from Page 1

to use them and where else they can buy them," she continued. "Those with more legitimate library concerns have to wait."

Barske is so fed up with the system that she has been hitching rides with friends. "It's ridiculous. It's so darned inconvenient. You can't just walk somewhere and get a pass easily," she said. "This is only going to encourage more people to get in cars.'

There are places in Noe Valley that sell Muni's monthly Fast Pass (\$35), such as Thrifty Jr., Printmasters, and Coast Federal Savings on 24th Street. And you can get the new weekly pass (\$9) at Veterans'

But Barske believes that many Noe Valley residents work at home, like she does, and don't use the buses and streetcars enough to justify having a Fast Pass.

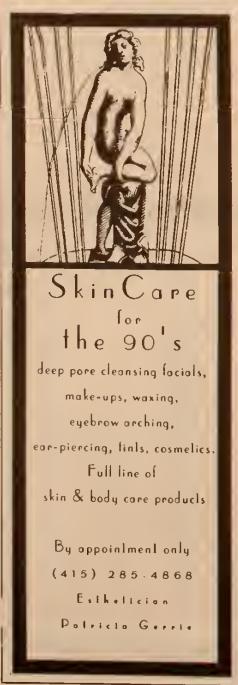
"Although at the \$4 a day I could spend on getting to and from a client on Potrero Hill," she added, "it wouldn't take too many trips to warrant buying the whole pass.

Both Barske and Greifer are of the opinion that the new fare policy was not well thought out. "I don't see why they don't just let us pay extra for a transfer while we're on the bus, like they do in Chicago," said Barske.

Greifer has been told that the present no-transfer, one-day pass system is on a three-month trial. She hopes that Muni officials will hear the same complaints she is hearing from neighborhood residents and revamp the system.

"The public is frustrated," she said. 'And I can certainly understand their frustration."

For a list of pass and token vendors yes, you can also use tokens, which cost 80 cents each and come in rolls of 10, 20, or 40, but there are no Noe Valley vendors!-call Muni's general information line at 673-6864. To register a complaint, call 923-6164.



Continued from Page 4

moves are typical of any large husiness that is trying to protect its earnings. The schemes are no better or worse than those of many other big businesses, universities, or churches. Until the government can prove wrongdoing, Erhard is innocent.

Few people choose to remember the Werner Erhard Foundation's generous gifts to provide emergency relief in Armenia, the Sudan, and Bangladesh, and to aid the clean-up following the Alaska oil spill. People like Pressman prefer to elaborate on charges that Erhard's lifestyle is excessively luxurious.

The American spirit of fair play, honesty, and objectivity is sorely lacking in the media's treatment of Werner Erhard.

Robert Warren Cromey Twentieth Street

Robert Warren Cromey is an est graduate and the rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in San Francisco.



Treating Depression with Drugs Still a Matter of Debate

As a psychiatric social worker and a community psychiatrist, each for more than 20 years, we were troubled by what we believe were serious distortions about depression and Prozac in your October article "We're in a Better Mood These Days-There's Help for Depression."

The article portrays the mental health field as united in understanding depression as a medical illness "no different from diabetes, in that it is a full-body biochemical illness." It also seems to accept the notion that Prozac and Zoloft are "miracle drugs" which can "wash away depression in months, sometimes weeks, with few apparent side effects."

This characterization ignores the long history of controversy surrounding depression. In fact, there is not even universal agreement as to what it is, much less what causes it. There is, however, voluminous literature showing that depression is a complex process involving the interrelationship of biochemical, genetic, and environmental factors.

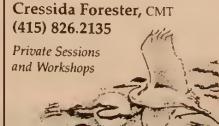
The article also downplays the controversy surrounding Prozac, largely portraying it as a thing of the past, when Prozac was first introduced. However, the issues of the drug's possible link to suicidal and violent behavior have not been resolved.

Also, for some people, Prozac has serious side effects, and may act in a way that is similar to amphetamines, causing decreased appetite, anxiety, agitation, bizarre dreams, etc.

In addition, the suggestion that Prozac affects only one neurotransmitter, serotonin, is misleading. The brain is an extremely complex and unified organ. When one neurotransmitter is interfered with, it can cause widespread compensatory effects all over the brain. For Prozac, the

BODY THERAPY

For Women...By a Woman Cranio Sacral Therapy Movement Myofascial Release and Guided Meditations



long-term consequences of this are unknown, since it is a new drug.

Despite the introduction of many new "miracle drugs" over the years, we have seen an epidemic increase in depression, and depression has been correctly called the common cold of psychiatry. So common is it that virtually all of us have experienced it at one time or another.

But the biomedical approach to treatment of depression—viewing it as purely a physical problem, located in the brain chemistry of the individual, and treating it with drugs—has proven to be grossly inadequate. We need to look at how to deal with depression as a normal state in our society.

There is a tradition of humanistic approaches—including social therapy which cost less both in dollars and cents as well as in human terms, and which are more effective in treating depression than the coercive approaches of drugs or electroconvulsive therapy.

These humanistic approaches see people as capable of reinitiating their own growth and development and restimulating their ability to take charge of and reshape their lives. Dozens of books have been written about such approaches. Thousands of people have been trained to practice them, and millions have been helped by them.

Surely an article that seriously addresses the issue of depression must include a discussion of these approaches as well.

Our thanks to the Noe Valley Voice for opening your pages to this issue and for serving as an ongoing forum for issues of concern to our community.

Helen Abel, L.C.S.W. Hugh Polk, M.D.

Helen Abel is the clinical director of the West Coast Center for Social Therapy, located on 24th Street. Hugh Polk is the director of the East Side Institute for Short Term Psychotherapy and the medical director of the Glendale Mental Health Clinic, both in New York City.



How to End the Squabbling Over the Pigeon Lady

A cafe where husiness is so good that the customers spill out onto the sidewalk, which is the very same sidewalk frequented by the infamous "Pigeon Lady" of Noe Valley-what an interesting combination of letters to find in your October

What a wonderful world our Pigeon Lady must have, feeding her birds. I'll bet she has her favorites among the flock. She probably even bestowed names on some of her feathered friends.

And when she's through for the day, I'm sure she heads home with a warm glow inside—satisfied that her "children" are well fed and happy.

As she passes Cafe Sanchez, she detours a few steps out of her way, because a few pieces of their furniture are blocking the path.

Now this tells me that Cafe Sanchez is doing it right: giving people something that they like so much that they return to enjoy it again and again-to the point where the physical premises have become too small for the cafe's "flock" of customers.

I'll venture a guess that the cafe's owners also go home with the same kind of good feeling as the Pigeon Lady!

It occurred to me while reading both letters that there is an amazingly simple solution to the pseudo-problems posed by them-a solution that would have saved the Southwestern Noe Valley Neighborhood Coalition a lot of time, tacks, and typing paper. It is: Hire the Pigeon Lady to feed the birds on the Sanchez

Street side of Cale Sanchez

The scenario goes like this:

1. The "Coalition" retains the services of the Pigeon Lady, providing her with an abundance of pigeon feed and a schedule of times that Cafe Sanchez's customers and furniture block the sidewalk.

2. The Pigeon Lady feeds her birds at

the appointed times.

3. Nature and gravity take their course. 4. Cafe Sanchez customers say things like, "I ordered a Spanish omelette, but I think this one is spinach and sour cream."

5. Cafe Sanchez staff discover the true cause of their problem.

6. Cafe Sanchez installs an awning and pushes its outside furniture under it. (Since an awning can only extend a couple of feet out over a sidewalk, there would have to be ample walking space left over.)

7. The cafe's eustomers thank the cafe for its wonderful sun shade!

Now you have one-half of our pair of problems abated. But we still have the Pigeon Lady without positive goals, and a Pigeon Lady running amuck can be a

So-o-o-o, what do we do? We assemble all of the competing merchants associations, improvement clubs, and coalitions of Noe Valley and get them to chip in and buy her a metermaid-type Cushman. For high profile, and to differentiate it from a real tralific checker, we paint it black with white speckles, like the ovenware your mom used to have.

Then we give her a cellular phone, a couple of bags of birdseed, and turn her loose on 24th Street with a mission—to sprinkle her seed around any panhandler or Street-Sheeter who doesn't keep moving. The phone would be used to alert her as to where to go next. A merchant could simply call her when a spare-changer pops up in front of a business.

It won't be long before the panhandlers go someplace else. And 24th Street's merchants will have done what the mayor can't seem to do.

But we still have our Pigeon Lady with time on her hands, don't we? Well, let's put her in charge of the Bell Market parking lot! The Pigeon Lady and her air force would turn over those parking places so fast there'd be plenty of empty spaces, even at 5 p.m. Finally, there'd be an end to the late-afternoon traffic jam on 24th Street!

And guess what? There would be no more Pigeon Lady-bashing! And that's how it should be, 'cause she's only feeding her birds, and a world without birds

Gee, I guess I should have said that in the first place.

Chuck H. Noe Valley resident

The Principal Problem at Edison and James Lick

I enjoyed Kathy Dalle-Molle's story on the schools ["Noe's 3 Main Public Schools Have a Year to Improve Test Scores," October 1993]. But I wish she'd done a little more investigative reporting.

First of all, the reason James Lick School's principal, Marylou Mendoza-Mason, headed south was because her contract was not renewed by the school

Second, Graciela Spreitz, former principal at Edison Elementary, was both a poor administrator and a dictator, who actually had a dedicated third-grade teacher arrested in front of students. Parents of children at the school have petitioned the school district to have three popular teachers whom Spreitz fired reinstated at Edison.

Also, under Spreitz's tenure, Edison's test scores stayed in the basement and were the lowest of all elementary schools in the district last spring,

What happened at Edison, and the fact that Principal Spreitz faced no punitive action and was merely transferred to another school, is why a lot of people in Noe Valley are voting for school vouchers, Prop. 174.

> Gwen Carmen Twenty-fifth Street



kingdom as head of the city's Animal Care and Control Department. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

Carl Friedman: Top Dog at the City Pound

By Loren J. Bialik

Twenty-third Street resident Carl Friedman often takes his work home with him. But his wife, Laura, and two kids, Jason and Amy, don't seem to mind.

That's because Friedman, 48, is head of the San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control, the city's animal shelter on 15th Street. And the "work" he brings home is pretty cuddly, with names like Moe the Mutt, Ali the Alley Cat, Joe and Tweety (two cockatiels), and, last but not least, Ricky the Rat.

"I try to take the animals nobody else wants," says Friedman.

Since 17,000 dogs, cats, birds, mice, and other assorted creatures cross the shelter's threshold each year—but less than half find a new home—he's got quite a few to choose from.

Fortunately for Friedman, he's an animal lover from way back. The son of a rabbi, he was born and raised in his grandmother's house in Brooklyn, N.Y. "Coming from a very orthodox home as

1 did," he says, "one of the things that

was instilled in me was to treat all living creatures with respect."

Respect for his elders was another story, however. Even though pets in the house were forbidden because his grandmother had allergies, "I always snuck in these cats at night," he admits, a sly chuckle in his voice. At one time, he was harboring five cats!

But it wasn't until 1971, three years after Friedman had moved to San Francisco, that he turned his fondness for animals into a career.

One day he was sitting in a donut shop on Fillmore Street, when he noticed a stray puppy whimpering at the door. Friedman called the local Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), but was astounded to learn that the organization had no lost-and-found program.

"Somebody had to be looking for this dog, because he looked like a purebred sheepdog, and if they would have taken the report, they could have gotten the dog back to its owner," Friedman recalls.

To remedy the situation, Friedman launched his own lost pet hotline called Protect-a-Pet. "We would man the phones 24 hours a day and take descriptions of pets lost and descriptions of pets found, and we would match them up. And we

were very successful," he says. He even managed to eke out a living from the business for three years.

Carl Friedman takes good care of Moe the Mutt at his 23rd Street residence, But he embraces a much larger segment of the lost-and-stray animal,

In 1976, Friedman again contacted the SPCA, this time suggesting that it start a similar lost-and-found switchboard. The SPCA, which was running the city's animal welfare program in those days, was receptive to the idea, and asked Friedman to come on board and set it up.

Over the next five years, Friedman rose through the ranks, going from volunteer coordinator of the hotline to director of animal welfare and protection services, one rung beneath SPCA president. But in 1981, he left the organization and took a job at the Post Office.

He still kept a hand in the animal kingdom, however, serving for several years on the city's Animal Control and Welfare Commission, an advisory committee to the Board of Supervisors.

Then, in 1987, the SPCA announced that it was bowing out of operating San Francisco's animal control program the next year. And the city faced a dilemma.

"It's a state law that counties must provide animal control services. The county had to either contract out with somebody else or do it themselves. Since there was really nobody else [besides the SPCA] to contract out with, they decided they would

do it themselves," Friedman explains.

Friedman turned out to be the perfect candidate for the task. First, he sat on the transition team responsible for creating the new Animal Care and Control Department, and then in July of 1989 he took over the reins as director. "To be able to build an organization from the ground up was a tremendous honor and a tremendous excitement."

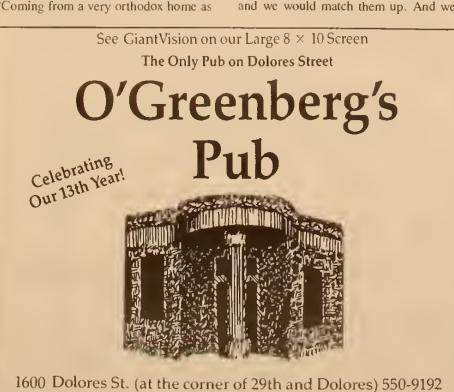
Nowadays, Friedman is responsible for a budget of \$1.75 million. "We have one of the best municipal animal control agencies certainly in this state, perhaps even in the whole country," he maintains.

But Friedman wishes to dispel the notion that he and his staff are just glorified dog-catchers, "the guys running with a net after a dog in the cartoons, and everyone's rooting for the dog.

"It's not like that," he says. Animal Care and Control provides for animals in numerous ways, only one of which is picking up strays and rescuing those who have gotten themselves into a fix.

Friedman says his agency won't come out and rescue your cat if it's stranded in a tree ("I've never found a cat skeleton in a tree," he jokes), but it will save cats that are trapped in the space between build-

Continued on Page 7





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Carl Friedman's **Motto Is** Adopt a Pet, Save a Life

Continued from Page 5

ings, rescue seagulls choked by plastic six-pack rings, and retrieve dogs that have ventured too far onto the rocks or fallen off cliffs by the ocean.

Animal Control will also furnish shelter to animals made homeless by fires. earthquakes, and other emergencies, and it will house temporarily-for up to two wccks-pets that belong to people who have been arrested and sent to jail.

Wild animals, like skunks and raccoons, are also befriended at Animal Control, and, if healthy, relocated to the California Center for Wildlife, for rehabilitation and eventual release back into the wild.

Animal Control officers also "investigate every case of alleged animal abuse that comes in to us," Friedman says. He notes that although it's not a major problem, some people still conduct dog fights in the city, and others may slaughter animals as part of their religious ceremonies -both of which practices are illegal. (The city recently passed an animal sacrifice ordinance, which bans the slaughter of animals for the sole purpose of appeasing a deity.)

Animal Control also performs Friedman's specialty-matching lost pets with their owners.

"If someone's pet is lost, the first thing they should do is call the Lost Pet Switchboard, Dial LOST-PET (567-8738). That is a recording that will list generically all the animals we have picked up that day," Friedman says. "But most importantly, because we're taking in animals all the time, come down to our shelter. You've got to look through our facility to see if your animal is there."

According to Friedman, approximately 40 percent of dogs get reclaimed by their owners, but the number's only 3 percent for cats. "People are not in the mind state to come down and look if their cat has been missing only a day or two. They say, 'He's gone away before for a couple of days. Maybe he'll come back in a week.'

"Well, in a week a cat could have come down here, spent the stray period (usually three days for cats, four days for dogs), been put up for adoption, and is now living somewhere else." Or worse, the animal could have been "euthanized,"

Because of the city's severe pet overpopulation problem, Friedman points out, the Animal Control staff is forced to destroy thousands of animals a year. This past year alone, 8,100 were euthanized.

"It's the single saddest part of what we do here, that we have to kill animals. I can justify killing an animal that has been so severely injured that it's in pain," Friedman says, "but it's a tragedy that we have to kill the healthy, adoptable, cutcsy ones."

That's why he urges you to have your pets neutered, and to try to keep cats inside and dogs on a leash ("It only takes one time for them to run away" and be hit by a car). And if you're looking for additional furry friends, you should visit the shelter and adopt one for a merc \$3.

"Every adoption from the shelter saves a life, and every animal that is adopted from us is spayed or neutered for free at the clinics we refer them to," Friedman says, explaining that the adopter's \$20 spay/neuter deposit is refunded once the owner has proof that his or her animal has been altered. (Animal Control maintains a veterinary clinic, but only for treatment of those animals in the shelter.)

Also, he notes, "we only put up for adoption the ones that are physically well. And we behavior-test the animals. We don't want to put animals out in the community that might be aggressive, that might hurt kids or other animals."

Friedman says few people realize that the shelter features an "exotic" wing, which provides temporary homes for pigs, birds, rabbits, snakes, iguanas, goats, hamsters, and even alligators. Some of the animals—the mice, birds, and bunnies, for instance-are adoptable, "if you can show you can take proper care of them," Friedman says.

He also recommends, especially now that the holidays are approaching, that people purchase gift certificates at Animal Control, rather than give puppies or kittens as presents. "There's nothing as cutc as a puppy or a kitten. But people don't realize that it's a lifetime commitment, a lifetime responsibility."

If you've already got your quota of pets, but still can't get enough of animals, you can always volunteer at the shelter. Fricdman commands a staff of 38 employees, but there are another 70 to 80 volunteers who really make Animal Control work, he says.

Volunteers not only introduce the animals to their prospective owners, but fill the role of Dog Walker or Cat Socializer.

Regarding the latter, Friedman says, "Sometimes we have cats on edge for weeks and weeks, without finding a home for them. After a while, the cats stop coming up and being friendly, and nobody's going to adopt a cat that's not friendly. So we have people who sit in with the cats and socialize with them."

Since Friedman shares his secondfloor office with the cat shelter (dogs are on the first floor), it's no surprise that he's a Cat Socializer too.

During his interview with the Voice. he took time out to chat with the office pet, a one-eyed black and grey feline named Mush, who had meandered in to nibble on the Science Diet catfood in a bowl next to Friedman's desk.

"She's been with us since we opened our doors," he said.

Mush then jumped in his lap and rubbed her head against Friedman's hand, causing him to wax philosophical.

'God, in his or her wisdom, has not put us on this planet to hurt animals. These are all living creatures, and we have to respect them as such."

Animal Core and Control, located at 1200 ISIN St. near Horrison, is open seven days a week, noon to 5:30 p.m. To report on abuse or osk for on animol pickup or rescue, coll 554-6364. Those interested in volunteering should contoct Melissa Flower at 554-9414.

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Stupid Cat!

By Maryjane Laznibot

ne morning in July on Alvarado Street, our doorboll rang. A young girl was standing there. She told my husband Steve, "There is a cat on your roof."

Steve thanked her and closed the door. He went to check. Sure enough, there was an orange and white cat, straddling the peak of our roof, looking down at him.

"Meow!" she said. It was 9 a.m. Our daughter Mala said, "Stupid cat!" and we went back to our breakfast.

We checked the roof after we ate, but did not see the cat. The doorbell rang again. It was the girl and her father. He told Steve he had called the Animal Shelter. They could not come to help the cat without permission from the home owner. He wanted Steve to give permission to have them take the cat off the roof. He gave Steve the phone number.

Steve went back to check where the cat was now.

Sure enough, there she was, still straddling the peak. "Meow," she said, a little more plaintively.

Steve climbed on the back porch roof. "Come down, Stupid Cat," he said.

"Meow," she said.

"Stupid Cat will come down when she is thirsty," said Steve. It was a hot

We went to Mass.

After Mass, Steve phoned the Animal Shelter. The man took the information needed to come out to remove the cat from the roof. Steve suggested the cat would come down by herself.

"Call back at three o'clock if she is still on the roof," the man said. One thing Steve did not want is a stranger on our roof. That would be his last option. The shelter did not mention what would happen to the cat after they removed it.

He went to check the cat. She was still there, clinging to the

peak of the roof. "Meow!" she said.
"Stupid Cat," Steve said, "come down and have some milk.'

"Meow!" cried the cat. "I'm scared. Get me down!"

"Stupid Cat!"

Steve went to the basement, got the heavy, wooden, rickety extension ladder. He leaned the ladder against the house, adjusted its length, got a shoe box, and climbed up to the cat.

"Get into the box, Stupid Cat," Steve

The cat put one paw on Steve's shoulder, looked at him apologetically, and said "Meow," but would not get in the shoe box. "Stupid Cat might not be so stupid," said Steve.

He then descended the ladder halfway, and Mala reached out an upstairs window and handed him her backpack. Steve went back up to the cat.

He placed the backpack over her fur and flipped it over, leaving the kitty's leg hanging out. She cooperated.

He brought her safely down the ladder, to the applause of surrounding neighbors. He helped the cat out of the backpack, offered her some milk, but she ran away.

Stupid Cat!

Moryjane Laznibot reports that the cot her fomily rescued has a safe, permonent residence on 22nd Street.



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Oh Where, Oh Where, Can I Find An Au Pair?

By Laura McHale Holland

How many pairs of au pairs can a person pair up? If you're Monica Steinisch, lots.

Steinisch speaks English and Spanish, a little French and German, and holds a bachelor's degree in international studies. And for the past year—in her job as community coordinator for the San Francisco branch of AuPair/Homestay USA—she has been providing practical support for U.S. families and the young adults from 14 European countries who live with them as au pairs.

An au pair (French for "on par" or equal) cares for the family's children and, in return, is welcomed by the family as one of their own. Au pairs also receive room and board, plus a stipend, and are invited to take part in family activities. If all goes well, the experience is educational, enriching, and fun for everyone involved.

"My favorite thing about this job is seeing those perfect situations in which the au pair feels totally like one of the family, and the family feels like she's an older daughter," says Steinisch, from the living room of the landmark 1908 earthquake cottage on 28th Street, where she, her husband, Phil Maloney, and their dog, Beau, have lived since 1989.

"Sometimes relationships continue for years to come, where the kids can't wait to visit the au pair in Europe, and they stay in touch for the rest of their lives."

Au Pair/Homestay USA is a program of World Learning Inc., which was founded in 1932 as the U.S. Experiment in International Living. It is one of the oldest non-profit international educational organizations in existence.

In addition to au pair and homestay programs (which serve travelers of all ages), World Learning runs a college in Vermont called the School for International Training, plus several programs aimed at improving economic and social conditions throughout the world.

"World Learning created the whole homestay idea—exchange students and all of that," says Steinisch. "In 1986 they decided to use the homestay principle to help parents out, by providing full-time child care." Thus AuPair/Homestay USA was born.

The program works by matching U.S. families seeking au pairs with European men and women (mostly women), 18 to 25 years old, who want to visit and learn about this country. Both applicant families and au pairs are scrupulously screened in their home regions. Then personnel in the program's Washington, D.C., office match au pairs to host families with compatible interests, backgrounds, and goals.

After the match is made and the au pair's travel arrangements are completed, community coordinators like Steinisch begin their job of aiding families and au pairs in their region.

One of 120 coordinators nationwide, Steinisch is currently tending a cluster of 18 families, in San Francisco, Marin, Tahoe, Eureka, and Redding.

"When I started in June last year, I had 17 families in my cluster. By April of this year, I had 3I, and had to split my group. I gave up my East Bay families, so they are now a separate group," she says.

Steinisch's charges hail from all over Europe—Italy, France, Norway, Ireland, Austria, you name it. Currently, all her au pairs are female, but she's had a couple of young men in the past, one from Switzerland and another from Turkey.

What Steinisch does comprises a large part of what distinguishes her program from other au pair services. "We're the only program that actually holds monthly



Twenty-eighth Street resident Monica Steinisch, a community coordinator for AuPair/Homestay USA, occasionally brings her European clients to Noe Courts. Standing behind her in this photo are a few of her current au pairs: Cynthia Bekka (France), Sarah Luddington (England), Karen Hattmannsdorfer (Austria), and Laure Pichon (France), with her charge Naama Dror. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

meetings for the au pairs," she explains.

"During those, we sometimes just do fun things, like last month we went bowling. In December we usually go to the Nutcracker. In November, we're going on a guided tour of Chinatown. This takes pressure off parents, in terms of feeling responsible for the au pair's social life. The au pair has things to do, friends, and can make other plans.

"We are also the only program that has an educational component," she continues. "Each au pair has an educational goal that he or she is required to accomplish during their year here. The family is required to make available up to \$300 for the au pair's tuition or textbooks.

"Many au pairs choose to do an internship instead. An au pair in the South Bay did a police car ride-along because she wanted to become a police officer at home. Right now I have an au pair who's working in a travel agency because she wants to work in the travel industry when she returns home."

Au pairs may also opt to participate in language exchange programs with local high schools, swapping language lessons with American students. They also attend career workshops.

"This gives the program a real balance, so the au pair is not coming just to do child care," says Steinisch.

Steinisch holds orientations for families and au pairs when the au pairs first arrive. They talk about adjustments, program rules, and ways to have a good year together. Steinisch finds these tasks extremely rewarding, even though it means she is literally on call seven days a week.

But working at home—where a cordless phone and a small filing cabinet are the only apparent signs of business activity—is definitely more to Steinisch's liking than commuting across the Bay Bridge, which she had to do at her former job as housing coordinator for a private language school.

"In the interest of providing good service, I really am available all the time. It means weekends, evenings, and before parents go to work. It's not like another job where you leave and don't think of it. I make sure 1'm available. Nobody has had to wait 24 hours for a call back from me," she says cheerily.

A prospective host family must have a private room available for an au pair, and be able to pay a \$3,625 fee, which covers the interview application and matching process, as well as international airfare. The family also pays the au pair \$100 weekly for 52 weeks, in addition to the \$300 educational contribution.

The program pays for the au pair's health insurance.

"The \$100 per week is a stipend, not

a salary. And it's all legal; there are no taxes, no forms to file. This is a cultural exchange program, and people come into this country on an au pair student visa," says Steinisch.

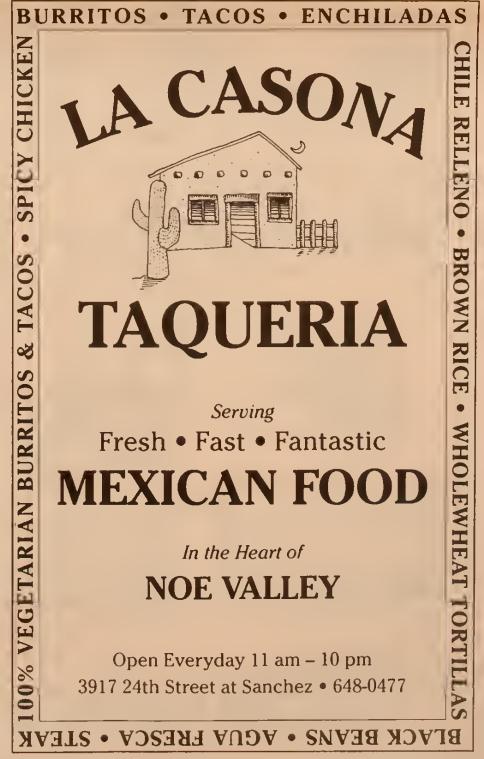
Au pairs are only required to provide up to 45 hours per week of child care, and are not expected to serve as housekeepers or cooks for the family.

"Host families don't necessarily tend to be rich. People think that to have an au pair is a luxury," notes Steinisch. "But the processing fee, educational component, and stipend, averaged over 52 weeks, comes to only \$175 per week.

That is very reasonable for 45 hours of home child care, especially if you have more than one child."

Au pairs may only participate in the program for one year, as mandated by immigration regulations, and only a limited number of visas are issued each year. Families, however, can participate in the program for as many years as they want.

Steinisch has not yet had any host families in Noe Valley, but she is certain there are families in the neighborhood for whom this program would be ideal. If you'd like more information or an application, give her a call at 648-4046.





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Animal Welfare

Noe Valley residents concerned about cutting down on the number of unwanted and abandoned animals in the city may want to attend a fundraising sale this month sponsored by the Animal Welfare Association of San Francisco,

The sale will take place on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 6 and 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 1420 Douglass St. Sale items will include housewares, books, plants, jewelry, pet paraphernalia, and

Proceeds will help support the volunteer organization's spaying and neutering program, which offers reduced rates to the elderly, people on low and fixed incomes, and to other pet owners unable to meet their veterinary costs.

The association also provides funding for the emergency treatment of sick and injured animals whose owners are unable

For more information on the sale or the Animal Welfare Association, call

Election Day Reminder

Tuesday, Nov. 2, is election day, and although it's not a presidential year, voters still have a huge laundry list of issues to decide upon.

This year's California state ballot features seven measures, including controversial Proposition 174, the amendment that would allow parents to choose their child's school—public or private—with a money voucher issued by the state.

Propositions on the San Francisco ballot run the gamut from A to Z, plus two more thrown in for good measure. City propositions cover such issues as increasing the number of taxicabs on the street (Proposition Y) and extending the halfpercent "temporary" sales tax (Proposition C), in case a similar measure on the state ballot fails to pass.

Only two city offices are up for grabs:

RTTAK

city attorney and treasurer, and both the incumbents, City Attorney Louise Renne and Treasurer Mary Callanan, are in the

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on election day. For information about where to vote or how to serve as a poll worker, call the Registrar of Voters at

Get Those Flu Shots!

The flu season will soon be upon us, so for those who need extra protection. it's time to get immunized.

The San Francisco Department of Public Health urges seniors and people with chronic health problems to take advantage of the city's low-cost flu shot clinics being held at various locations through-

The clinic closest to Noe Valley, Health Center No. 1 at 3850 17th St., will offer shots on Tuesdays, Nov. 2 and 16, and Thursdays, Nov. 4 and 18, from 8:30 to

Shots cost \$2, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Health Department officials expect to immunize some 30,000 seniors this fall, in anticipation of a flu season that should strike California around the first of December. This year's vaccine offers protection against the Beijing, Texas, and Panama flu strains.

To find out about other clinic locations and times, contact the San Francisco Department of Health at 554-2846.

Odes from Vincent

Noe Valley resident Stephen Vincent will give a poetry reading Nov. 12, featuring works from his most recently published collection, Walking.

The reading and book party will take place at Carroll's Books, 1193 Church St., starting at 8 p.m.

Vincent has authored six other books of poetry, including Passage and Everyone Knaws Childcare. He is also the director of Book Studio, a book production company in San Francisco. Until 1991, he was editor of Bedford Arts, a nationally-known publishing company that specialized in art and photography books.

Vincent will be introduced by writer Bill Barich, author of Laughing in the Hills. Refreshments will be served. For further details, call Carroll's Books at 647-3020.

Musical Benefest

November is the month for Thanksgiving and turkey, but also for showcasing the neighborhood's rock 'n' rollers, at the Noe Valley Music Festival, a fundraiser put on by the Endangered Species Alliance.

This month's eighth annual event takes place from 2 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13, at four Noe Valley hot spots: Jack's Taps on Church Street, and the Cork 'n' Bottle, the First Ining Lounge, and Noe's Bar and Grill, all on 24th Street between Castro and Church.

During the afternoon, a variety of bands will perform rock, blues, soul, folk, and Latin music. Among them are such local acts as the Banditos, the Palm Garden Band, Heads of State, the Nightowls, Jimmy & the Weasels, and Black Cat.

Tickets will be available at each of the four venues, at a cost of \$2 per bar or \$5 for access to all. And proceeds from the event will benefit two senior centers, Centro Latino on 15th Street and the Noe Valley Senior Center located in the Noe Valley Ministry

For more information, look for flyers

best offer in

Noe Valley

and posters at the participating watering holes, or ask for festival organizer Roy Derrick at Noe's at 282-4007.

AIDS Hotline Training

Volunteers are needed to train for the AIDS Treatment Hotline, which provides current HIV/AIDS treatment information to the public.

The hotline, sponsored by Project Inform, fields AIDS-related questions from over 50,000 people from around the country each year. The service offers information to individuals who are HIVpositive, their friends and family, as well as to doctors, nurses, social workers, and other providers.

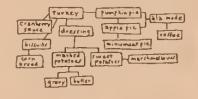
The next training session for the hotline will take place Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 13 and 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Project Inform's offices at 1965 Market St., Suite 220.

Those interested should have a basic familiarity with common HIV treatments or be willing to do catch-up reading to prepare for the program.

New hotline workers answer calls during one three-hour shift per week, and are asked to commit to a minimum of four months of service. Shifts are from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or from 1 to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

To sign up, call Ben Collins at Project Inform, 558-8669.

This month's Short Takes were written by Steve Steinberg and Jeff Kaliss.





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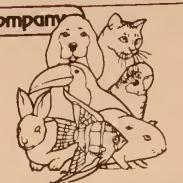
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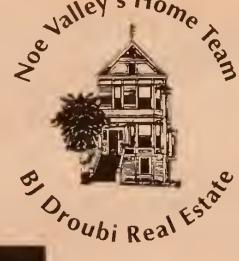
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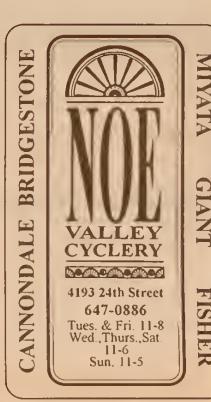
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Let BYLINES BYLINES

My Auto, Myself

By Joan Gold

apartment, I notice the place where it used to sit, elegant but somber in its metallic blueness, windshield wipers folded primly in place, doors latched, headlights

self, Joan Gold, it proclaimed for all the world to see. You are an adult, Look what you can accomplish once you've set your mind to it.

And now it is gone.

I went out one Saturday morning, 9 a.m.—places to go, people to see. at attention, a proud arboreal sentinel in the early morning light, stark, and strangely unobscured from top to bottom.

It took me a moment to realize What Was Wrong with This Picture: There was nothing parked in front of the tree-no four-wheel, four-cylinder, four-door.

I knew the truth the moment I focused in on that tall tree swaying gently in the morning breeze. My much-loved 1984 Toyota Corolla, License No. 2LGF708. my triumph over deep psychological complexities and myriad layers of profound spiritual angst, was gone forever. I was robbed!

The person who took my report was sure of where I had left it,

walkie-talkie, was on my doorstep taking notes. I think he even clucked once or twice in sympathy, finally handing me a tiny slip of paper, with handwritten number on it, entitled "Incident Report." In no time at all, I was the proud possessor of an official City and County of San Francisco Incident Report. No car, just Incident Report No. 9060432.

I was fine for the first day or two. 1 could even laugh and make jokes, although a small part of me seemed all too aware that I was probably in shock.

Everyone told me I was taking it so

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very time I leave my Glen Park muted-stern somehow, yet welcoming.

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The tree across the street stood smartly

For-lorn

Under similar circumstances, other people walk the length and breadth of their neighborhood, around and around the block for hours, refusing to give up, thinking stubbornly that they just mislaid it, forgot where they parked, were towed—some logical excuse, any logical excuse—until finally forced to accept the inevitable.

1 went back inside to call the police. very nice—she only asked once if I was

Yes, I told her firmly, my eyes fixed on that point outside the living room window. I always parked it in the same spot, directly outside my front door on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and across the street under that giant bottlebrush tree the rest of the week, precisely per local street-cleaning regulations. I am a very law-abiding citizen, deserving of the utmost police cooperation and protection.

Some minutes later, a baby-faced sergeant, complete with clipboard and

Official California Smog Station



Joan Gold longs for something blue and inexpensive to fill the parking space in front of her Diamond Street home. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

well-if it was their car, well, they'd probably just go nuts. Having already gone nuts several times in the past few weeks over other, less costly disasters that hardly seemed worth their weight in Kleenex now, I had decided on a calm, rational approach to this one.

Within two days the police reported back that the vehicle in question had been located, but unfortunately it was no longer in one piece. The insurance company jumped in quickly with the news that we were headed for salvage city, and I was introduced to Sandy Smith, my very own personal Total Loss Adjustor.

It wasn't long after my Total Loss Adjustor and t had our first telephone conversation that I started noticing that the walls of my two-room apartment were closing in on me. I felt like I was suffocating. And the breathless, panicky feeling was accompanied by a persistent notion that I would never go anywhere again as long as Hived.

Not to the grocery store, or the post office. Packages would pile up unto eternity until they were finally returned to sender. 1'd never be able to comparison shop at K-Mart, I'd lose all my friends, I'd never eat in a restaurant or see a movie or....

t wasn't always thus. For t4 blissfully happy years I was a . Municipal Railway rider of the perkiest persuasion. In my mind, cars were environmentally unsound polluters and an anachronism in the latter half of the 20th century. By taking public transit I was protecting the ozone layer, conserving our natural resources, etc.,

I started driving five years ago purely out of self-defense (during a brief. unsuccessful stint in the suburbs) an only with extreme reluctance. The thought of owning a car produced foreshadowings of the most grievous of dooms: I, Joan Gold, wasn't capable of the responsibility. It was just too much stress. I would panic under the exigencies of adult challenges such as traffic jams and clogged transmission valves, and do something irredeemably stupid, like changing lanes without signaling, and plow into an errant oil tanker.

However, wiser people warned me of my shortsightedness, and they were right. After five years of one-stop shopping, I am hooked and I admit it. I am Fast Pass-friendly no more, but rather, a gas-guzzling, sparkplugjiggling, oil-changing, carburetordependent junkie for life.

The only cure for this particular affliction, these same wise people tell me, is to start scrutinizing used-car lots, swap meets, and the classified section of the Sunday paper, in order to rid myself of this feeling of vehicular deprivation at the earliest possible moment. God and Mr. Goodwrench willing, that is exactly what t intend

Does anyone know of a used Toyota for sale?

Joan Gold is particularly partial to blue, automatic Toyotas, circa 1984, for under \$3,000. If you have a lead, give her a call at 587-4265.

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Let Bylines Be Bylines is your column, but no one will know it unless you send us something you've written. The Voice welcomes submissions of stories, editorials, and accounts of daily life in Noe Valley, And we're especially partial to those that are typed, double-spaced, and fewer than 1,000 words. Please give it some thought, and then mail your words of wisdom (and your phone number) to the Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez St.. San Francisco, CA 94114.







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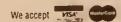
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covers a beat that
centers on 24th
Street and extends
from 21st and
Grand View to
Army and Valencia
streets.



Disturbing Break-in on Grand View

By Officer Lois Perillo

On Scpt. 30, a man and woman in their late 20s were the victims of a home-invasion robbery on the 600 block of Grand View Avenue. Both were awakened at 4 a.m. by three men dressed in black, who had broken into the house and confronted them in the bedroom.

The suspects, who apparently knew that the targeted man had recently obtained a large amount of cash, stole the money, demanded more, and then became angered when they found none. The couple was then pistol-whipped by the suspects and bound with duct tape.

The case is being investigated by Inspector Tim Foley of our Night Investigations division.

Thieves After Purses and Skateboards

During the period from mid-September to mid-October, there were also five street robberies in my stretch of Noe Valley.

In the most recent, a 10-year-old boy was riding his skateboard at 4 p.m. on Oct. 2 near 24th and Castro streets when two 15-year-old boys pushed the youth off and stole his board.

The targeted boy's father spotted the suspects with the board and took it from them. One teen brandished a knife at the man, who then yelled, "Police!" causing both suspects to flee.

In another case, a 42-year-old woman was robbed by three men on Sept. 28 at 4:55 p.m. As the woman walked the 4200 block of 25th Street, carrying bags over both shoulders, she felt her bags pulled from the rear and saw two 28-year-old suspects, who snatched the bags from her and ran toward a waiting ear. She followed until one suspect turned and yelled.

Although the suspects escaped, the targeted woman had the good sense to get the car's license plate, which helped police discover that the vehicle had been stolen from a lot at Candlestick Park. According to Inspector Gary Frederick of the Robbery Detail, the car was later found, and fingerprints were successfully lifted and are pending identification.

On Sept. 22 at 12:45 p.m., a 17-yearold teen girl tried to snatch the purse of a woman who was walking west on 24th Street toward Church Street. Officers Mike Moran and Joe McFadden, with the aid of a witness and the targeted woman, found the suspect at 25th and Guerrero streets and booked her with attempted robbery.

Although the suspect told police she



Downhill Racer: A No. 48 Muni bus was spotted at the tail end of its Fountain Street loop, heading down 24th Street toward the terminus of a tortuous transit. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

"was just playing," the targeted woman reported that the suspect grabbed her bag, shoved her, and hit her in the head during the robbery attempt.

Also, the suspect and two companions may have targeted another woman at 24th and Church immediately before this incident. The Juvenile Division is handling the case.

In another purse-snatch, a 38-year-old woman was walking at 21st and Castro streets on Scpt. 18 at 11:05 p.m., when a man approached from behind, grabbed her bag, and pulled hard. The woman struggled with the man, who shoved her to the ground and pulled her a short distance before she released the bag.

The suspect fled in a waiting gold Cadiffac. The victim, who had sustained abrasions, was treated by paramedics following the incident.

Another purse was taken from a 35-year-old woman as she walked with a woman friend at Diamond and Army streets on Sept. 16 a little after noon. Four teen suspects rushed by the two women from the front, then one suspect returned and grabbed one of the women's bags from the rear.

Thanks to the keen observations of several witnesses, the targeted woman's money and purse were both recovered.

Due to police investigation, a suspect was later found. According to Robbery Inspector Mike Maloney, the suspect's photo will be among those shown to the targeted woman in an attempt to make a positive identification.

Be on the Lookout for Burglars

Two commercial and eight residential burglaries were reported in my area of Noe Valley from mid-September to mid-October.

Of the residential burglaries, four occurred during the 9-to-5 work week, and three happened overnight or on a weekend, when the residents were away. One occurred while the residents were home.

In that last incident, a suspect was arrested on Saturday, Sept. 18, at about 9 a.m., when he was seen entering a front door on the 3550 block of 23rd Street and leaving with stolen property.

As is sometimes the case, the suspect lived within the vicinity of the burglary and was on probation for the same of-

fense. Kudos to the alert neighbor who spotted the suspect and notified police.

Garage Door Openers Are All Wet

Many of you may have seen Channel 7's garage burglary coverage, which revealed a method of illegally opening electronic garage doors by spraying a liquid into the outside cylinder key lock.

No, I won't "out" the method too, but suffice it to say that the liquid completes the circuit, and tricks the garage door into thinking you have inserted and turned your key.

Often, the only sign of a burglar's entrance is the absence of your property. This is an especially intrusive crime if the thief is able to get access to your living area via the garage. Do secure that

interior garage door.

And if you have one of those outside cylinder key locks, in order to foil a liquid break-in, disconnect the cylinder lock's access point (turn the power off first!) and cover the lock with a hinged combination lock box. Or, better yet, replace it with a key pad.

Share this information with neighbors, extended family, and friends. This is one type of crime that is preventable with action.

See you on patrol.

Officer Perillo is a member of the San Francisco Police Department's Community Police On Patrol program (CPOP). She can be reached at Mission Station's CPOP number, 647-2767.



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By Rick Garner

New options for eating, exercising, and decorating—both indoors and out—are featured in this month's Storetrek.

A Body of Work 1199 Sanchez St. 647-1199

Fitness enthusiasts who want to sculpt the contours of their body while improving posture and releasing tension can now train at a new private studio, A Body of Work, located at 1199 Sanchez St. at 25th Street

The studio focuses on one-on-one workouts and teaches clients to use a gentle exercise technique known as the Pilates Method. Introduced by Joseph Pilates in 1923, the method is now seen as an alternative to aerobics, weightlifting, and other more rigorous exercise programs.

"The key is to strengthen supporting muscles, not just to pump iron for one muscle," says Body of Work owner Madeline Black, who is a professional dancer



Owner Madeline Black (sitting) and trainer Lynne Uretsky (kneeling) take a holistic approach to creating physical well-being at A Body of Work on Sanchez Street.

as well as a fitness trainer. "Our clients learn how to focus on their body as a whole, and to exercise muscles deep within their bodies."

Clients operate various exercise apparatus—equipment with names like the Reformer, the Cadillac, and the "Wunda" Chair—which use springs to create resistance and stretch muscles and joints.

By developing both strength and flexibility, Black says, "a person can perform everyday movements with energy and without pain"

A Body of Work also offers Pilates-

based mat classes, as well as massage and lyengar yoga. Susan Branum, director of the Back Room Yoga Studio, housed in the same building, conducts the yoga classes. Laura Roe, a licensed massage therapist who trained at the New York Swedish Institute, gives the body ruhs.

Training at A Body of Work is available on a private or semi-private basis, and in packages of 4, 8, or 12 sessions. The hours, usually starting at 7 a.m. and continuing into the evening, are huilt around the schedule of clients.

Echo 3775 24th St. 282-3330

Echo is the perfect home and garden store for the 1990s, offering a broad spectrum of ecologically-minded accessories that emphasize harmony hetween indoor and outdoor environments.

The shop, which is visually striking for its rich earth tones and the artful arrangement of its wares, opened on 24th Street near Church on Sept. 11.

Customers will find a collection of linequality stationery (made from recycled paper), candles, photo frames, bath products, and glassware, as well as table lamps, pillows, and woven blankets. Garden items include packets of seeds, tools, vintage watering cans, and new and antique pottery.

"I've always collected 1930s pottery, which is a very esoteric line," says owner Susan Williamson, who also lives in Noe Valley. "So when we incorporate them with some of the newer items, it's like an 'echo' of the past."

Among the store's newer items are the graceful steel tables, clocks, and shell units handcrafted in the Noe Valley studio Form and Reform.

To remind us of the interdependent relationship between man and nature, Williamson provides information on service organizations that promote community gardens, tree-planting, composting, and preservation of the earth's natural resources.

"In terms of urban gardening, these organizations are an environmental necessity," says Williamson. "They help to make our city and neighborhood more livable."

Echo is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sundays from noon until 5 p.m.

Bacco 737 Diamond St. 282-4969

Chef Vincenzo Cucco and Manager Paolo Dominici are pleased to present Bacco, an Italian restaurant that opened in mid-July in the space formerly occupied by the Diamond Street Restaurant, just off 24th Street.

According to Cucco, Bacco serves "truly authentic" Italian cuisine, prepared with homemade stocks, breads, and raviolis, all made from scratch using classic Italian products.

But Cucco won't label his cooking Northern or Southern Italian. He trained in Palermo, Sicily, and also has experience in the kitchens of Venice and Switzerland. So he incorporates many different styles into his menu.

"You try to do the best," he says. "Some people do it one way, you do it the other. But you've got to like everything you do!"

His menu offers several choices of appetizers, pastas, meat dishes, and seafood.

One could start with the classic caprese (tomato and mozzarella cheese topped with basil and olive oil, \$4.50), then move on to an entree of fettuccine ai gamberi e rucola (pasta with fresh shrimp, arugula, and tomatoes, \$9.75) or pollo farcito al prosciutto (boneless chicken stuffed with prosciutto and fennel in white wine sauce, \$9.95).

For dessert, Cucco suggests gelato or a dish called *pere al sangue di bacco* (pear poached in red wine sauce and pistachios, \$3.25).

The wine list is prepared by Dominici. "He's very knowledgeable about wines," notes Cucco, "and has put together a good wine list, which he will be expanding to suit customer tastes."

Bacco is open daily from 5:30 to 10 p.m. Call 282-4969 for reservations, and keep in mind that Bacco currently accepts cash only, although credit cards will be coming soon.

The Palm Broker 29th Street & San Jose Avenue 626-PALM (7256)

Plant-lovers who long to turn their back yards into lush, tropical forests are in luck, now that Mark Green has opened a palm tree nursery, humorously called the Palm Broker, in a large lot at the corner of 29th Street and San Jose Avenue.

"Palms are so much easier than trees, and more beautiful, too," explains Green. "You can buy a palm and get instant beauty, rather than waiting half your life."

Residents may have already seen some of Green's offshoots while walking and traveling through San Francisco. For the past three years, he has provided palm trees to both municipal and private developers, adding the tree's stately style and grace to homes, parks, and other developments.

"I've just completed a contract with the city of San Francisco to provide palms along 24th and Valencia streets, in the Mission," he notes.

Green works to find the best product at the best price, passing along the savings. "I buy direct from the growers,



Susan Williamson sells things old and new for home and garden at Echo on 24th Street. PHOTOS BY CHARLES KENNARD

often right off their trucks," he says. Most palms are grown in the deserts of Southern California, around Palm Springs, Los Angeles, San Diego, or Santa Barbara.

Green's unabashed enthusiasm for the tree (he is also owner of the Lone Palm bar on 22nd Street at Guerrero) has a practical side.

"They are a low-maintenance plant, even no-maintenance," he says. "They're drought-resistant, have a small root ball, take up less space above ground, and the reward is immediate," compared to the long growth cycle of other trees and shrubs. "In San Francisco's climate, they grow ahout six inches a year."

Potential palm owners don't necessarily need a space the size of Dolores Street to plant their trees; the Palm Broker sells palms that are manageable in small plots.

"Those palms [on Dolores Street], Canary Island Date Palms, are over 85 years old," explains Green. And the recently installed Market Street palms (between Castro and Sanchez streets), he adds, are 65 years old, "and cost about \$2,500 apiece, excluding excavation. Our smallest palm is sold in a 15-gallon container, and prices start at \$69."

If you're considering starting your own Gilligan's Island, the Palm Broker is open Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and weekends, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Deliveries can be arranged to suit customer needs.





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Memories of The Meat Market Still Percolating For Sixties Survivors

By B.L. Green

After 22 years on 24th Street, the Meat Market Coffeehouse is a neighborhood icon, once bearing the reputation as Noe Valley's most popular bohemian den.

And the new owners of the cafe, at 24th and Castro, are doing their best to make sure it remains a local hangout (see accompanying story, page 24).

But they may find it hard to rekindle the Meat Market's counter-culture, posthippie spirit, which burned brightest during the 1970s and early '80s.

To give them a slight push, however, the *Voice* recently tracked down a few of the Meat Market's original denizens, who responded with an outpouring of nostalgic reflections.

"I miss the camaraderie, the friendships, and the contact with the people," said Curtiss Chan, who with Barbara Martin founded the coffeehouse in 1971. "The people made the magic happen. It also was a period of time that's irreplaceable."

"Bruce Forman, a jazz musician, was often there, and R. Crumb, the cartoonist," recalls Martin. "Ranking chess players came in, and there were all kinds of characters, including a man with a guitar named Jerry whose last name we never did know, but who's still roaming around Noe Valley."

Ed Buryn, a writer/photographer who lived a couple of blocks away in the 1970s and '80s, says he went there almost daily for 10 years. "The spirit of the time was communal," said Buryn, and the Meat Market was indeed a community center.

"It was like a New York coffeehouse with a lot of funk," recalls Noe Valley Librarian Roberta Greifer, who during the same period took frequent coffee breaks at the cafe. "I liked the atmosphere, which was intellectually very stimulating."



The present-day Barbara Martin and Curtiss Chan stand outside the community meeting place they established 22 years ago. Photo By Beverly tharp

For writer and computer software consultant Bill Yard, who worked as a glazier in the '70s, the Meat Market also served as a union hall and message center, where he could often get leads on jobs.

"I don't know what I would have done without it," he says now. "I could always catch my breath there and get some perspective. The Meat Market is the only place where I could do that in my adult life."

Despite its notoreity, the Meat Market's history may be somewhat murky, especially for newcomers to the neighborhood. But Martin and Chan, who both still reside in Noe Valley, are happy to fill in the gaps.

"We didn't set out to create a local landmark," said Martin. Instead, in the late '60s, the Ohio native and her San Francisco-born buddy, Chan, had nothing more specific in mind than launching an enterprise that would give them financial independence. Martin was then a nurse at San Francisco General Hospital, and Chan was "a cab driver with a liberal arts degree."

Although neither had ever before owned or run a business, Chan had worked in a fashionable Polk Street cafe in the '50s—the original Coffee Cantata—and both had recently traveled to Europe and been delighted by the cafe life they'd discovered there.

Noe Valley needed its own coffeehouse, they figured, especially for young, antiestablishment folks like themselves, who were then settling in droves in the relatively low-rent, working-class enclave.

"You had to go to North Beach for cappuccino," Chan recalled, "and there wasn't any parking over there, even then!"

He and Martin began shopping for a location. For a short while they rented a space at 4298 24th St., now occupied by

the Animal Company. Then they moved down the street to 4123 24th St., formerly the site of a butcher shop.

They managed to rent the storefront for \$180 a month, but only got a sixmonth lease. Their landlord, a Mr. Gong-Ting (he never revealed his first name), had operated the butcher shop until his retirement, and refused to guarantee a longer rental because he was deeply skeptical about the pair's prospects for success.

"But it's not a coffeehouse! You can't make money!" Martin remembers him protesting. "You've got to sell meat!"

"He was an incredible man," she marvels now, noting that Mrs. Gong-Ting, his widow, still lives in the apartment above the business. "We did everything with him on a handshake. There was never any paperwork involved. It was all trust."

Continued on Page 23



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At its cultural crest in the '70s, the Meat Market was a haven for those craving either conversation or contemplation.

Remembering the Meat Market



The muse presides at a 1976 meeting between writer Elizabeth Bell (right) and poets Frank Donnola (left) and Eugene Lesser.



The year is 1976, the street is 24th, and a young, funkier Curtuss Chan is preparing to enter the neighborhood's living room.



Vagabond cricket player Alan Weedy (left) and painter Jim Schwartz discuss life's sticky wickets in the homey comfort of the Meat Market Coffeehouse in 1981.

Photos by Ed Buryn

The Coffeehouse With the Perfect Blend

Continued from Page 21

She and Chan racked their hrains over a name for their new business and at one time considered "Merry Muffins and the Ten Little Drips." But they finally settled on the simplest choice: they took the name the store came with—the Meat Market—and just added the word Coffeehouse.

The Meat Market Coffeehouse opened in 1971, but quickly closed down, having been inundated with more business than its owners were prepared to handle.

Chan and Martin regrouped, bought additional supplies, and transformed the interior, which still sported meat display cases from front to hack.

"We wanted the Meat Market to he fike a hig fiving room," Chan said.

The partners made it over into one large open space filled with couches, overstuffed chairs, and other furnishings acquired from Chinatown junk heaps, garage sales, and thrift stores. The decorincluded headed curtains, pampas grass in bottles, and a mock kitchen in one corner, complete with an antique Wedgewood stove.

Thus they created the Meat Market's signature identity: a cozy, lamp-lit place for patrons to mellow out in, with good friends and amiable strangers. When all was in readiness, they held their second opening on Feb. 2, 1972, Groundhog Day.

For the next 10-plus years, they presided over a scene that catered to Noe Valley's heavy thinkers, composed mostly of Vietnam-era baby-boomers.

"The coffee was very good," said entertainment writer and *Voice* contributor Jeff Kaliss, then a federal government employee

"And cheap," recalled Buryn. A cup of house coffee cost 30 cents; 10 cents for refills. Even so, he added, "I couldn't always afford my daily coffee. My friend Howard Fatlon often had to buy it for me."

For New College Law School professor Peter Gabel, who says he wrote his Ph.D. dissertation at a Meat Market table, the main attraction was the chess. He and fellow players carried on extensive matches, and monopolized the smaller tables for weeks on end.

Other Meat Market patrons whiled



Meat Market founders Curtiss Chair and Barbara Martin share a cup of fond remembrances with their former landlady, Mrs. Gong-Ting. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

away the hours writing in their journals, listening to music and poetry readings, or just contributing to the endless flow of talk

Frequently the cigarette smoke was as thick as the intellectual ambience. "There was so much smoking going on." Chan said, "it could have been called Sherman's Depot!"

Among the crowd of men with fuxuriant heads of hair and women dressed in made-over face tablecloths—both gay and straight—romance often bloomed.

Yard, for one, met a woman there who later hecume his wife. "Penelope wandered in and was fooking for a vacant seat, and I just happened to have one at my table. At the Meat Market, you never knew where you'd hind a place to sit, so you ended up sharing space a lot," Yard said.

"Bill Yard's experience wasn't uncommon," Martin says in retrospect. "In the sense of people meeting and mating, it really was a 'meat market'!"

Kaliss too found the Meat Market a good place to eye the ladies. He often recorded the various stages of his attachments in his journals.

"There's a girl sitting in front of me in the Meat Market with one pigtail over an orange shirt," runs an entry dated July 21, 1974, "staring intently at the metal strip nailed to the table in front of her as if there were something in it."

Just watching her brought on a rush of energy, he noted. "It's a thing when I feel the effects of the coffee even before I've drunk the cup."

The following November he inscribed his ultimate tribute to the Meat Market: "This is a nice place to write."

It was also "one of the community's greatest resources," said Yard, referring to the oversize bulletin board at the front of the cafe, which was always thick with ad flyers, roommate notices, personal messages, and odd forms of graffiti.

Networking was clearly a feature of the Meat Market scene, and many of the connections made then are still going strong. "A farge portion of the people we met," Chan said, "and a number of the managers and assistants who worked for us, are still friends and acquaintances."

Martin, who now owns the Center Court Cafe in the Stonestown Galleria, says it's not unusual for middle-aged customers to ask if she's the Barbara Martin who founded the Meat Market. And when she says yes, they frequently declare that the coffeehouse dramatically changed their lives for the better.

Martin and Chan's own relationship survived the rigors of running the Meat Market for a decade. They're still friends, and when Chan married in 1988, Martin was his "best man." She's never been his bride, she points out, although gossip over the years had it that they'd not only heen married, but divorced as welf.

In 1982, Martin left the Meat Market to pursue other interests. And Chan, hy the mid-1980s, began scaling hack on the long daily work hours he put into the husiness. "The amount of direct involvement I could give was, after a time, limited. I was burned, It had been a long haul," he explained.

He began to turn more and more responsibilities over to a series of managers, some of whom were as disengaged as himself, in the process, the interior was stripped of much of its funk, and the "living room" gave way to a more pristine histro style.

The hours—once extending to 11 p.m. weeknights and midnight on weekends—were shortened, entertainment fell off, and smoking was fimited to one section. In 1986, Chan gave up entirely his share of the Meat Market's ownership.

During the mid-'80s, the old crowd hegan melting away. "It's hard to say whether the Meat Market scene evaporated hecause the place changed," Kaliss observed, "or because society itself was changing, or just hecause many of the people who'd been going there got older."

In any case, as Peter Gabel put it, "In the 1980s they might as well have put a sign on the door, 'Closed for Yuppichcation.' They made it into a pink ice cream parlor!"

Gabel added, "The Meat Market became one of those post-'60s hangouts that, during the Reagan administration, dropped their cultural identity to make money. This kind of thing happened all over San Francisco, all over the country. Progressive people were panicked and demoralized by Reagan's election. We, the '60s generation, didn't reafize that we had to hight for our culture."

Still, for Yard, it's enough to remember the Meat Market as "an island of sanity, tolerance, and acceptance in a city that was very much changing.

"The Meat Market was trying to save some of the ideals of the '60s that we saw slipping away in the '70s, and let them take root there fong enough for people to appreciate them."

"It was just the right place, the right time," Buryn says wistfully. "It was like the Left Bank in Paris in the '20s, here in Noe Valley."







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Reverence for Coffeehouse **Not Lost on New Owners**

When Manhal Jweinat and three husiness partners took over the Meat Market Coffeehouse in late 1992, they knew that the 22-year-old cafe was a revered stomping grounds for Noe Valley's baby-hoom generation (see story, starting page 21).

"The Meat Market is a Noe Valley landmark," says Jweinat, who shares ownership of the cafe with his wife. Hala Jweinat, and two relatives, Munier and Dia Elkhuri. "One reason we were interested in buying it is because it is a coffeehouse with a history."

To recapture its former glory, the new owners are considering remodeling the cafe's interior.

"We'd realty like to open it up all the way," says Jweinat, "perhaps taking out the wall that separates the food service area and the back part of the coffeehouse." The partners also may reinstitute



Today's Meat Market Coffeehouse is more restrained than the bohemian gathering spot of vesteryear, but the current owners hope to restore the old charm. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

poctry readings and other public events, in hopes of drawing larger crowds.

Former regular Peter Gabel suggests that "if they want to welcome people back, they've got to take out those booths!"

But with 30 years of experience in coffeehouse management, Jweinat may well be able to pull off a Meat Market renaissance, booths or no booths. Born in Jordan, he worked in Italian cafes for 16 years before emigrating to the United

States in 1979. For the past 12 years, he has operated the Higher Grounds coffeehouse in Glen Park

Partner Dia Elkhuri is currently the manager at the Meat Market. She presides over a kitchen that offers a menu similar to the coffee, pastries, and mostly vegetarian sandwiches and salads that the cafe has long been famous for.

Fortunately for the new owners, the Meat Market recently received a boost from Cafe San Francisco, a guide to the city's coffeehouse culture. Author James Forhes wrote, "The Meat Market still possesses the ingredients of a great coffeehouse.... Its rich history is still felt."

And Barbara Martin, one of the cafe's original founders, urges Noe Valley residents to continue to support the Meat Market. "A sense of community is at stake," she says.

"We do get people who come in from the old times," says Jweinat. "Sometimes they're people who don't live in San Francisco anymore. They come back and stop by for a visit, just to see if the Meat Market is still here."

Indeed it is, and current hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays; and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 🔲

-B. L. Green



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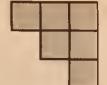


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Clipper Street SAFE Group Contact: Don Kern or Howard Johnson, 821-3866

Mailing Address: 225 Clipper St., San Francisco, CA 94114 Meetings: Third Tuesday of month, Bethany Methodist Church, 201 Clipper St., 7 p.m.

Diamond Heights Community
Association

Contact: Robert Dockendorff, 826-3867 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31529, San Francisco, CA 94131 Meetings: First Thursday of the month. 7:30 p.m. Call for location.

Dolores Heights Improvement Club Contact: Bruce Muncil, 864-7847 Mailing Address: 336 Cumberland St., San Francisco, CA 94114 Meetings: Irregular

Duncan-Newburg Association Contact: Evelyn Martin, 826-6734, Janet Kennedy, 647-1844, or Deanna Mooney, 821-4045 Mailing Address: 560 Duncan St., San Francisco, CA 94131 Meetings: Irregular

East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club

Contact: Paul Kantus, 647-3753 Mailing Address: 492 Douglass St., San Francisco, CA 94114 Meetings: First Wednesday of month, Noe Valley – Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St., 7:30 p.m.

Fairmount Neighborhood Association Contact: Al Ujcic, 648-3545, or Susan Nutter, 285-8484 Mailing Address: 78 Harper St., San Francisco, CA 94131 Meetings: Held periodically at Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day and Sanchez, 7 p.m.

Fair Oaks Neighbors Contact: Kevin Brickley, 285-4938 Mailing Address: 165 Fair Oaks St., San Francisco, CA 94110 Meetings: Twice a year at ICA Auditorium, 24th and Guerrero streets



Friends of Nne Valley

Contact: Steve Roseman, 824-0977, or Georgia Finnegan, 285-8016 Answering machine number: 285-3532 Mailing Address: 1178 Dolores St., San Francisco, CA 94110 Meetings: Second Thursday of month, Noe Valley – Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St., 7:30 p.m.

Glen Park Association

Contact: Joan Sciwald, 586-4448 Mailing Address: Glen Park Association, P.O. Box 31292, San Francisco, CA 94131 Meetings: Second Tuesday of month, Glen Park Recreation Center, Elk and Chenery, 7:30 p.m.

Liherty-Hill Neighborhnod Association

Contact: John Barbey, 695-0990, or Hilda Bernstein, 282-8232 Mailing Address: 3333 21st St., San Francisco, CA 94110 Meetings: Quarterly, Call for time and location.

Noe Valley Democratic Club Contact: Rick Hauptman, 647-0549 Mailing Address: 1595 Noe St., #6,

San Francisco, CA 94131 Meetings: Held periodically at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., 7 p.m.

Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association Contact: J. P. Gillen, 821-1515 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 460574, San Francisco, CA 94114 Meetings: Last Wednesday of month, Bank

of America, 24th and Castro, 9 a.m.

Noe Valley Senior Center Call 648-1030 for lunch reservations Mailing Address: 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114 Meetings: Monday through Friday for lunch (donation \$1.25), Noe Valley Ministry, 1021

Sanchez St., 12:30 p.m.

R.A.A.G.E.
Race Awareness Arbitration
Group Education

Contact: 285-5322
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 426199,
San Francisco, CA 94142
Meetings: Second and fourth Tuesdays, 7:30
p.m., place to be announced

Upper Noe Neighbors
Contact: Janice Gendreau, 641-5989
Mailing Address: 403 28th St.,
San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Every other month, Upper Noe
Recreation Center, Day and Sanchez,

7:30 p.m. Call for specifics.

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Noe Valley Ministry 1021 Sanchez Street between 23rd & 24th Sts. DATE: Saturday, November 20 TIME: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

DATE: Saturday, Jan. 15, 1994 TIME: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

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A Moving Memory

n the winter of every year, when it begins to rain incessantly, I feel a bit uneasy, remembering the unsettling event of 1936 that shook our family household to its very foundation.

Twelve years earlier, when I was 6 years old, our parents had left Chattanooga Street in Noe Valley and acquired an old house in a more rural neighborhood, so that my two brothers and I could play free from the dangers of city traffic. Our new home was located in the Sunnyside District, on the thenunpayed end of Foerster Street.

The first time we inspected the interior of the house, we could not help but notice some large, circular stains on the upstairs floors, which led us to believe (since it was the Prohibition Era) that bootleggers had once distilled and stored their barrels of illegal alcohol on the premises. Nevertheless, the house, and the sparsely developed area surrounding it, proved to be a wonderful place to rear farm-bred children. (We were originally from Idaho.)

In the spring there were green grassy hills and babbling brooks to explore, and gorgeous fields of wildflowers to be plucked. In the fall, the green slopes turned gold and were sprinkled with patches of brilliant red, forming a landscape that was unlike anything we'd ever seen.

That first autumn in our new house, the red shiny leaves were so inviting that I gathered an armful to bring to my mother. On the way home, an alarmed neighbor boy stopped me and gave me a lecture ahout the perils of embracing that particular plant, which was poison oak!

Naturally, I cast my bouquet away immediately, but not soon enough. The next day my arms were itching and swollen, and my face had baltooned to twice its size. In the following weeks, I continued to appreciate those glorious colors, but from a safer vantage point.

For years, living in the Sunnyside was much like living in the country, until the growing city of San Francisco began construction of a new traffic artery, stretching from Portola Drive to Monterey Boulevard. Teresita Boulevard, as the new street was called, wound around the hills for 12 undeveloped blocks, then descended to Foerster Street. There it passed our house, to connect with

A great deal of earth had to be moved to provide space for two traffic lanes, with a sidewalk on each side. By the time the digging was done, the front door of our house stood 25 feet higher than the street!

Fortunately, my father was an energetic carpenter who loved his work. Immediately he began building forms and mixing cement until he had filled in the gap between the street and our house with usable space (which eventually became a rumpus room above a garage that opened to the street).

He finished it off with a stucco facade and cast-plaster accents, which made it look like a new home, much to my mother's delight.

But only a few years later, after the final mortgage payment had been made, the rains came—and came relentlessly.

FLORENCE'S FAMILY ALBUM

Illustrated Reminiscences by Florence Holub



This photo of Florence and her family (older brother Clarie, mother Lena, and younger brother Ward are standing, with father John kneeling in front) was taken in the late 1920s. while the Mickelsons were still on firm ground outside their house on Foerster Street.

Here's a House That Thinks It's a Bobsled John Nicholson's home at 625 Foerster-st, which is slow on the slope, activated by the heavy rains, started the six feet across the sidewalk. The heavy timber props toppling over are being slowly crushed, and the first fl off Mi. Davidson. Old fault line 2 SHIPBUILDING CALIFORNIANS

Florence Holub's childhood home began to slide down the side of Mount Davidson in 1936, gaining attention from the local press and a crowd of speciators.

The downpour was so heavy that a mud bed apparently formed beneath the house. We had no idea of the extent of the ooze, however, until the evening when—as fate would have it—my mother just happened to be giving a dinner party.

The guests of honor were Florence Krieg, a genteel lady with whom my mother worked at Best Foods, Inc., and George Newman, a favorite cousin from Berkeley, who often spent the night with us when he was attending union meetings in San Francisco. (It was before the Bay Bridge was built.)

For the occasion, my mother had set a fine table, with a white brocade cloth accenting the expensive china that had been a gift from friends in honor of my parents' 25th wedding anniversary. As we all sat around the table enjoying the soup and anticipating the courses to come, we suddenly felt a terrible jott, accompanied by a deep groan. We were silently frozen with fear until we realized it was over, whatever it was.

Probably because the impact felt nothing like an earthquake—there was no shimmying—the jolt was alarming. My father and Cousin George ran downstairs to inspect the underpinnings of the house, but returned to report that they had found nothing out of order, so we could all relax. However, as the dinner progressed, each course was punctuated by additional creaks and

The dinner guests grew increasingly nervous, nihbling but barely tasting the food. When the evening was finally over, we crawled into our beds, completely exhausted, to try to sleep.

In the morning, as everyone rushed off to work and school, we noticed that the sidewalk had huckled slightly. And when we arrived home in the afternoon, the situation had gotten much worse, with water spewing from a hroken pipe and the smell of escaping gas filling the air. The house had also crept several feet forward during the day, having been pushed off its now squishy foundation by a mountain of mud at the rear of the property.

The city inspector had been there, condemning the place and posting a notice prohibiting habitation of an unsafe building. Then the utility company men came to shut off our service because of the broken pipes.

My mother and I didn't know what to do, so when a kind neighbor invited us to spend the night, we gladly accepted. But first we went to the dining room closet where the treasured china was kept, and my mother wrapped every piece, carefully stacking them in a wash basket, which we carried with us to our neighbor's house.

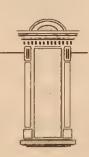
My father and brothers refused to abandon the homestead, however, and insisted on sleeping the night in their own beds.

Early the following morning, my father called upon Hanson House Movers to shore up the structure until the damage could be assessed. After they did so-by propping up and bracing the house, which had moved even further down the hiff—it soon became clear that the home my folks had worked 10 years to own was prob-

Continued on Page 28



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FLORENCE'S FAMILY ALBUM

Continued from Page 27

ably worthless. In fact, the only offer my parents had was to tear it down, for a sum not quite as much as the original price!

Naturally, my mother was terribly disheartened, but my father, with his unfailing optimism, comforted her: "Don't worry, we'll get out of this," he promised.

Over the next week, my father tinkered with various solutions, refusing to give up in defeat. Each night, after he took off his thinking cap, he would take out one of his musical instruments and play an old melody from our Finnish homeland. Miraculously, his cares would disappear.

It was on such a night that the editor of the local Swedish paper, Vestkusten, came to interview him. The story that appeared in the paper, "Here's a House That Thinks It's a Bohsfed," had a lighthearted slant, with the editor stating that he found his lodge hrother. John Mickelson, engrossed in making music, "like Nero fiddling while Rome burned." But my dad appreciated the good-humored attention!

The old Call Bulletin also featured a story, which attracted a stream of curious onlookers-so many, in fact, that a policeman had to he assigned to direct





The Top 10 Cruise Lines

There was an interesting article in Conde Nast Traveler last month. It listed the results of their annual "Readers' Choice" awards, a poll of the top choices for different aspects of travel destinations, hotels, airlines, cruise lines, etc.

Seabourn Cruise Line won the number one position with Conde Nast readers, with a fat 98.5% approval rating on accommodations. Crystal Cruise Line came in at 2nd place, but with a higher score for recreation/entertainment. Some of our favorites also appeared in the Top Ten-Holland America was #6, Celebrity showed up at #7 and Royal Caribbean rounded it off at #10. But some of our personal favorites didn't even make it to this list.... Which just goes to show you that it's different strokes for different folks. (But we should all he proud to note that the top spot for destination is held by our fair city of San Francisco!)

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the traffic that clogged the one remaining lane in front of our house. Some folks brought their lunches to munch on, as they sat all day waiting for action.

Meanwhile, our family came and went as usual, except that the house we went in and out of now sat in the middle of the street.

s my father searched for an answer to our financial crisis, the price of nearby lots skyrocketed. Fortunately for us, a kindhearted neighbor offered to sell his level lot, located only one block away, for a

I did not see the actual relocation of our house. But one day after school, when I arrived at the spot where our house should have been, I discovered it had been moved to the slanting street in front of the lot it would soon occupy. There it stood, on blocks, until a new foundation was poured several weeks

I remember coming home fate one evening, climbing up a ladder to the back door, then walking uphill through the rooms—with the curtains hanging out toward me at a 30-degree angleand dizzily ascending the stairs to my bed and sleep. When I awoke in the morning, I discovered that as I slept, my bed had slid down to the lower. opposite side of the room.

I was a senior at Balboa High School when all of this happened, so when our yearhook came out, showing photographs of all of the graduates, I was not surprised to find my photo accompanied by this caption: "A touch of the artistic in my fingertips, a sense of rhythm in my feet, and strangest of all, my house is in the middle of the street."

At about the same time that the yearbook went to press in November of 1936, our family had cause to give thanks. That year we, along with a dozen happy relatives, were able to celebrate Thanksgiving with an enormous turkey dinner, served on my mother's fine china, in our now absolutely stable home.

Thanks to my father's industry, after only nine months our displaced manor had been secured to a new foundation and remodeled inside and out, making it a much sounder structure, in spite of its shaky history.

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JAPAN MAP ACC

THIS IS HOUSE THAT JACKS REBUILD These Are People That Lived in the House



You've heard of the house that Jack built. Well, here's one that's had to have speedy Jacks to keep it from plunging fatally into the street. It's

the home of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Mickelson of 625 Foerster street, which slowly slipped downhilt after heavy rains had loosened the foundations.



Mrs. Lena Mickelson and her daugh-er, who were in the house while it lowly oozed downward, but did not

Florence (shown at bottom left in this newspaper clipping) was 17 when she and her mother, Lena, were pushed into the media spotlight by the mud behind their house on Foerster Street.

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Quiet Village: Were it not for the contemporary street-cleaning sign, this view of 25th Street between Vicksburg and Church could be an idyllic scene from Noe Valley history, in the days when there were still few cars or condos. PHOTO BY PAMELA GERARD.



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Doing a Head Trip on 24th Street

HAIRS LOOKIN' AT YOU: A curious chain of events may soon double the number of barbers in Downtown Noe Valley.

It all started in September, when Isa and Micky Muhawieh, of Isa's Hair Studio at 3834 24th St., were negotiating to open a second salon at 587 Castro St. (near 18th), but were allegedly undercut by Supercuts, a nationwide chain of haircutters.

"I had a verbal understanding about moving into the Castro Street location," says Isa, "but Supercuts came along and by offering a lot more money convinced the landlord to rent to them instead."

Castro Street's loss may have been 24th Street's gain, however, because Isa then started focusing on his home turf, and last month he landed the spot recently vacated by Everett Shades (between Holey Bagel and S.F. Coffee).

In the new location, he says, "We are going to have a barber shop with shaves and shoe shines, and a lot of casual clothing and accessories for men. Hopefully, it will be kind of like a men's toy store.' The new shop will be unveiled Nov. 15.

MEANWHILE, Haircutters & Co., a salon located a few blocks up the street at 4027 24th St., was also under the impression that Supercuts was breathing

According to Liz Nash, who with partner Yvonne Winter has operated Haircutters for 13 years, Supercuts has designs on the storefront next door to her shop, currently occupied (but soon to be vacated) by Kim Lee Laundry.

Liz says she is "outraged about another large franchise trying to impose on the

and now behind RUMORS the news

Noe Valley community." To prove it, she and a contingent of neighborhood stylists have started a petition intended to discourage Supercuts from "strong-arming their way into our communities, taking revenues away from local small businesses and profits out of the area."

The Supercuts invasion (if it becomes a reality) would be particularly aggravating to Liz, because she recently renegotiated her own lease, remodeled the interior, and changed the name of her salon to Hot Headz.

"After 13 years, it was time to update the shop, expand our services, and do more retail," she says. "And we were really excited about it."

雷雷雷

DON'T TAKE US TO THE CLEANERS: Olivia Chin, proprietor of Kim Lee Laundry, is staying mum about any negotiations with Supercuts, but admits she is closing her shop on Nov. 6.

"I know my customers are upset and tell me to stay, but overall business has been down, and the work is harder for me now. The machines are getting old, and so am I," says Olivia.

Her retirement comes close to two decades after she bought the business from Kim Lee in 1974. Real oldtimers will remember that Kim Lee started his washand-fold laundry in the early '50s, in the storefront where Bakers of Paris is now. He moved to 4031 24th St. in 1959, and Olivia began working for him as a seamstress in 1970, a year after she arrived in this country from China.

You've probably had enough of our dirty laundry by now, Olivia. Happy re-

888

ALSO, SO LONG to Joy McLeod, who just sold her Caruso Wine and Liquor Store after nearly 27 years of operating on 24th Street (near Noe).

Joy bought Caruso's with her husband Wesley (who passed away 10 years ago) in 1966. According to records that were unearthed recently, a man named Caruso opened the store at its present location, 4011 24th St., circa 1938.

Joy says she's looking forward to "taking it easy," but she will miss all her friends on 24th Street.

"When I started at Caruso's," she recalls, "Noe Valley was much sleepier...a much quieter neighborhood than it is now. But my favorite era was in the mid-'70s, when things really started to liven up."

Caruso's new owners, Steve Kerr and Allen Carlson, have a strong Noe Valley connection too. Steve lives at 29th and Church and used to be manager of the T. Marasco wine shop at the other end of 24th Street.

Steve also knows his wines from cork to bottle. He co-teaches, with Diamond Street chef Rebecca McCurdy, a popular cooking class at The Festive Table, Rebecca's catering shop in the Marina.

"The class is really great," says Steve. "For \$75, you get six classes on making gourmet dishes in Rebecca's wonderful kitchen, learn how to choose the best wine to go with the meal, and then you sit down and eat, drink, and be merry."

雷雷雷

THE CLASS OF 2000 is now merrily wending its way through our educational system, having settled into the rigors of fifth grade. Let's hope that by the year 2000, the public schools still exist for those kids to graduate from.

As we speak, Alvarado Elementary

School is trying hard to get back to the future. Class size has been reduced to 24, and parents are volunteering in the classroom. There's a computer lab and a science program, a library with new books and a real live librarian, and a rejuvenated arts and mural-making program.

Alvarado Principal Sandy Leigh invites Noe Valleons to attend an open house Saturday, Nov. 13, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the school at 625 Douglass St. She hopes to show them that Alvarado's on an upswing, and would welcome a bigger share of neighborhood kids on the blacktop next year.

Also getting into the act is Claire Sheehan, a teacher at James Lick Middle School. Claire says students from her seventh-and eighth-grade classes at Lick have been visiting a third-grade class at Alvarado every Friday, as part of a "future teachers" project.

"We have 25 12- and 13-year-old students who pair up with the third-graders and read them books that they have written in our class," explains Claire.

She adds that the program is being videotaped for posterity. "We have a camera and crew from television station KFTL (channel 64) recording the classes, since many elementary school teachers in the city fear that the older kids will come in and disrupt their classrooms, and the video will hopefully overcome this myth."

The tutorial program has been going so well, it will be expanded to 50 Lick students by January, she says.

You might also be interested to know that another Lick teacher, Joe Rubin, walked his students over to Cybelle's Pizza on 24th Street last month. The kids spent two hours in the morning learning how to make a pizza, then sat down and downed their creations for lunch.

Joe is still smacking his lips from the field trip. "The class is learning cooking, sewing, and woodworking right now, and an event like Cybelle's just gets the students more excited about learning."

Continued on Page 33

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RUMORS

Continued from Page 31

ARE WE HAVING FUN YET? Noe Valley cartoonist Bill Griffith reports that he and producer Brandon Tartikoff, of TV sitcom fame, are presently putting their pinheads together.

Says Bill, "Zippy is very close to signing a movie deal with Mr. Tartikoff's new production company, and hopefully 10 years [of striving to bring Zippy to the silver screen] will be the charm. It's been a long roller-coaster ride, but we are headed up the big slope again, and I can hear that loud grinding sound as we start to climb.

How's Zippy handling the stress? "Oh. he's doing great. He's already ordered the hors d'oeuvres for the party."

TOP OF THE POPS: It's shocking, I know, but Indecent Proposal, starring Robert Redford and Demi Moore, topped the charts at Video Wave on Castro Street last month.

But according to VW's Alexander Gardener, a rental that is moving even more briskly in Noe Valley is PBS's six-hour miniseries A Year in Provence, which is based on Peter Mayle's best-selling book of the same name.

Over at West Coast Video (24th and Church), Disney's more wholesome animated film, Aladdin, is flying out of the store.

The best-selling fiction at Cover to Cover (24th near Sanchez) these days is Strange Pilgrims by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. In the non-fiction category, Margaret Brodkin's Every Kid Counts, featuring 31 ways to save our children, is going like hotcakes.

On the music scene, Sunlight Weismehl over at Streetlight Records says a rock 'n' roll band called the Breeders is



Reagan Readers: It seems that despite their busy lives outside the White House, Ron and Nancy have continued to keep in touch with the inside news. PHOTO BY NAJIB JOE HAKIM

making waves with its current c.d., Last Splash.

HAIL TO THE CHIEF: Joe Montana is still the nostalgic hero of choice at Noe Valley Sports Cards, the trading card shop at Church and Duncan. He's so big, in fact, that a whole display case has been devoted to Joe's mug and other Montana accoutrements.

Says trader Herb Lilly, "We have thousands of Montana items, with the cards going anywhere from \$3 to \$25. The

most popular one is of him in a Kansas City uniform, and we're also selling a lot of number 19 K.C. uniforms and Chiefs'

The window-shopper-stopper of the month has got to be the "Holo-illusions" exhibit in the window at Star Magic. These are holographic posters which have hidden images that are not easy to see at first glance—especially if you're relying on only half a brain.

According to Starman Kent West, the

staff is getting a kick out of watching Noe Valleons turn into zombies in front of the store, "The Holo-illusions have attracted a lot of daydreaming people staring into our window, because that's the only way you can see the images in the pictures."

Let's us zombies not forget to vote Nov. 2. I'll be tabulating the results for the December issue, and I'm looking for a 100 percent turnout from Noe Valley. Are you with me? See you at the polls.

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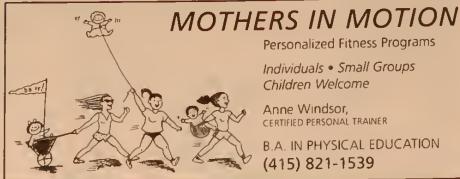
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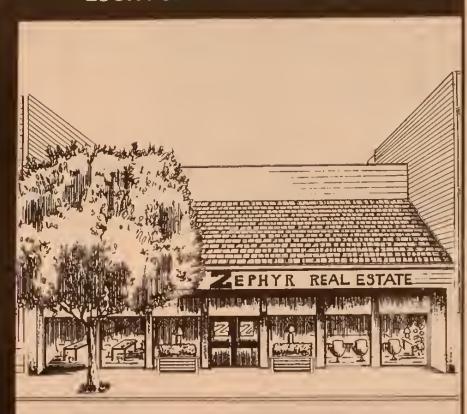
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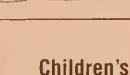
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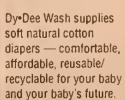
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MORE MOUTHS · to feed ·

By Laura McHale Holland

Sara Elizabeth Moon

On the eve of Thanksgiving, 1992, Laure Moon carried 30 pounds of groceries from Bell Market to her Clipper Street home, where she expected to trim turkey the next morning.

Instead of basting a bird, however, she and her husband, Jim, found themselves holding 7-pound, 1-ounce Sara Elizabeth Moon, born at Kaiser Hospital at 1:30 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25, 1992.

"The labor went really fast, only about 10 hours," recalls Laure, "and we were able to come home the same day. We like to joke that carrying the Thanksgiving groceries brought our Thanksgiving baby."

Sara is indeed a baby to give thanks for, considering that five years ago Laure was diagnosed with endometriosis, a disease that can cause infertility. The doctor advised her and Jim, who were both in their late 20s, to try to have children

"The longer you wait, the more likely you are to be infertile," explains Laure, now 32. "But Jim was in engineering school, and I was the sole breadwinner, and we couldn't imagine raising a family in those circumstances. So we waited until we were emotionally and financially ready."

Nowadays, as they watch Sara develop, Laure and Jim are especially grateful that their decision to delay parenting worked out

"Sara just started crawling in the past couple of weeks," says Jim, 34. "One day she looked like she was thinking about it. A few days later, she was zooming across the floor.'

For Laure, Sara's budding language skills are a delight to behold. "She seems to understand my words. I see the excitement and recognition in her eyes, like I'm really communicating with a little being there," she says.

Sara's eyes are blue and framed by long blond lashes, just like her dad's. And according to Laure (who describes



Thanksgiving baby Sara is about to celebrate her first birthday talking turkey with parents Jim and Laure Moon. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

her own personality as "high energy"), her daughter has also inherited Jim's easygoing nature.

In fact, during an interview in August, Sara was perfectly content to model one of her parents' favorite baby gilts, a red Friends of Noe Valley tee shirt. The Moons joined the neighborhood group shortly after they moved here in July of

"Friends of Noe Valley has given us a sense of community and belonging that we might not have had otherwise," says Laure. "We came from the Midwest, where you felt you could just sit on your porch swing and meet your neighbors.

"Here, it's different," she notes, "al-

though it seems easy to meet other parents-which isn't surprising, considering all the strollers you have to dodge on 24th Street!"

What has been surprising, for both Laure and Jim, is how captivating a child can be. Jim, who now works full time as an electrical engineer, looks forward to being on the haby detail. "I get Sara up in the morning and change her, and then I go to work. When I get home, most of the evening is centered around doing things with her," he says.

Laure, who worked as a journalist for 10 years before embarking upon full-time motherhood, shares his zeal.

"In a marriage," she explains, "some-

times you keep a mental note like, 'I've been doing the dishes all week, now it's your turn.' But with a baby, you don't mind the amount of effort it takes.

"Your love continues to expand to the point where you wonder if it can expand any more." But the amazing thing is, it

MORE MOUTHS TO FEED wants to show off your newest family member, If you have a new baby in residence or you just adopted a teenager, please send your announcement to the Noe Valley Voice, Attn: "More Mouths to Feed," 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Don't forget to include your address and phone number, so we can contact you to arrange for the family portrait.



Katherine

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f you are a woman who is 40 years or older, there is an important step you can take to protect your health. The American Cancer Society recommends that women without a history of breast disease have their first mammogram by the age of 40. Women aged 40-49 years should have a mammogram every year or two. Women who are 50 years and over should have a mammogram every year.

A mammogram is an x-ray that produces pictures of the insides of your breasts. It can detect breast disease and breast lumps that are too small and too deep to feel. Although nine out of ten women will not develop breast cancer and most breast changes are not cancerous, a mammogram is a safe and simple way of detecting breast cancer. The earlier breast cancer is diagnosed, the more successfully it can be treated. A mammogram is one of the best methods doctors have for finding and evaluating breast cancer in its earliest stages.

St. Luke's Breast Health Center has modern x-ray machines that use very small radiation doses. All of our mammogram technologists are women who are specifically trained to take breast x-rays safely and effectively. Each technologist will explain how the breast x-ray is taken and answer your questions. If you are interested, your visit to St. Luke's Breast Health Center can include video instruction in breast self-examination (BSE).

To protect your health, call today for a manimogram appointment at St. Luke's Breast Health Center. You do not need to see your doctor to make an appointment for a mammogram. However, your test results will be sent to your doctor. If you do not have a doctor, St. Luke's Physician Referral Service can help you find one you can trust and who understands your needs. Call St. Luke's Physician Referral Service at 821-DOCS.

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I'd like to send you a fancy one So you could think of me having such fun,

But all I seem to find as 1 sit here and think

Is this blank sheet in want of a little ink.

It's a great place, so I've told you before
But be specific, I hear you entreat:
"What is the name of the street?"
There are two digits, multiples of one another;
They add up to twice the number hetween them,
And the first, when subtracted from the second,
Yields the first again.

Curious, you say, I can imagine you rolling your eyes, But come, let's take a walk And I will show you these things of which I talk While the sun at an agreeable slant lies.

Here, you see a postage-stamp park Running with tiny feet; Moms, dogs, and athletes, "Just the thing," you say, "For those with companions that bark."

And there, the pet shop, And across the street the groomer's, Doggy heaven it is, but I don't think Your fish would appreciate such an ark.

But let's continue,
This is just the tip of the iceberg,
I daresay my neighborhood has
More treasures than any suburb.
"Oh good, a meat market," you call from the gut,

"No, only coffee and cake," I almost sing,
"Well, how about a knish?" as your eyes connect
With the sign across the street.
Not now, though I've heard a bite
Between relatives is a sacred thing.

It's the people here I want to show you,
That's the point of any excursion
Down this street, which offers

See there, walking toward us, The big man with the sore feet, Voice of an angel, "Take a load off," I say, "Someday I will, little brother,

such a varied view.

And that woman, Selling the newspaper there, As good as a local she Always smiles and says hello.

Someday I will."

That man with the
Guitar and big shoes,
I've seen him many times,
His audience, always around him they
stood,

He strums and coos

And sings of love and brotherhood.

And these women
In the painted nail salons where they pay
For pedicures, manicures, foot massages and on:
"Looks like a public form
Of ecstasy," you say.

"I see you're well provisioned, brother of mine; A supermarket or organic produce, take your pick." Ah yes, but it's the fresh carrot juice for my eyes And the all-natural peaches that make my tastebuds shine. By Steve Sheret

And pizza and beer, and a pub
Named after an animal friendship of the letter R.
"Chinese, Japanese, Mexican, Italian, a deli
And two ice cream shops—how complete!
Methinks you will never be at a loss for something to

"But what is this, brother?
Another coffee shop, and another?"
'Tis true, sister, an obsession and an addiction
Beyond all call and cause,
A secret no more,
The ugly truth at last told:
Noe Valleyans never drop—
With conversation constant and hearts ascending,
We've found paradise in a demitasse.

So let us sit and sip for a spell On this my favorite bench And listen to the locals gesture of what they tell, Such stories are the stuff of communal magic, Tales of daily life and roundabout routine That tip the scales of scintillation to the fantastic.

But enough! The sun is declining,
Touching the sky with a yellow and orange hue,
Bringing from the ocean not far off, a shady dew,
Time to start back up the hill, shining
Toward where Neptune raises his trident
From those rolling green waves,
Shallow and housed they may be
But try to see as the locals see,
Those are the mighty Twin Peaks.

Of an upcoming visit, Sis, I have no fear, All I can say is, "Wish you were here!"



Steve Sheret, a resident of Fountain Street for the past year, works as a waiter at Ernie's Restaurant. His sister, Nora, resides in their hometown of Van Nuys, California.



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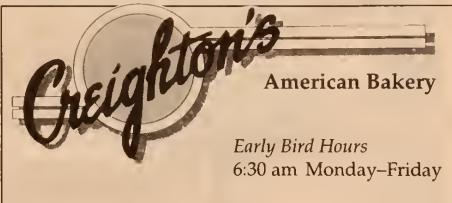
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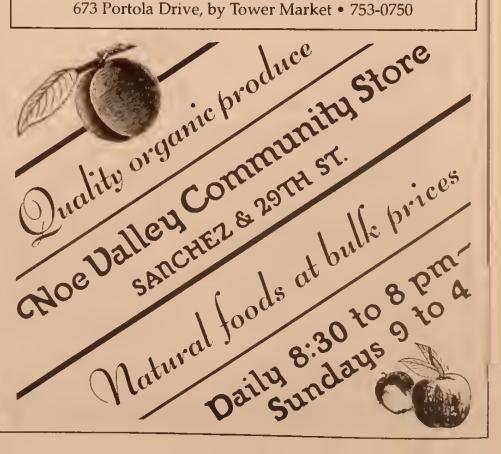






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MORE Books to Read .

Librarians Roberta Greifer and Carol Small invite you to check out the new books available at the Noe Valley-Sally Brunn Library, 451 Jersey St. Hours are Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1 to 9 p.m.; and Thursday through Saturday, 1 to 6 p.m. Info: 695-5095.

Adult Fiction

- ** Interest of Justice, by Nancy Taylor Rosenberg, features a judge consumed by the emotional aftermath of her younger sister's murder.
- h In Missing Joseph by Elizabeth George, the murder of a vicur by food poisoning implicates an infertile woman.
- ** Strip Tease, Carl Hiaasen's latest thriller, depicts a sex-crazed congressman, trying to save himself from an election-year scandal.

Adult Non-Fiction

- Delving into feline hehavior, The Cat's Mind, by Dr. Bruce Fogle, explains the role that training, genetics, and socialization play in forming the personality of a cat
- * Depression and Its Treatment identifies the symptoms and possible causes of this illness, and offers the latest information on medication.
- Haw Computers Work, by Ron White, contains up-to-date and amply illustrated information on all computer parts and functions
- In the Fast Lane, by Carol Soret Cope, investigates the murder of a wealthy. Miami businessman and the wife accused of killing him.

Children's Fiction

Inspired while studying East Africa in school, Linda finds similarities and differences between her own life and that of Masai children. She enjoys feeling "the tingle of kinship" in *Masai and I* by Virginia Kroll. (Ages 5–8.)

- A shy young man, unable to tell a beautiful girl of his love for her, receives some help from the natural world in *Love Flute*, a Santee Dakota myth retold and illustrated by Paul Goble. (Ages 7–9.)
- ** Because Yosef observes the Sabbath, some amazing things happen during his desert journey in *The Sabbath Lion*, a *Jewish Folktale from Algeria*, retold by Howard Schwartz and Burbara Rush. (Ages 7–9.)
- ** Working Cotton, by Sherley Anne Williams, describes one long, tiring day for Shelan and her family of African-American migrant farm workers. (Ages 7–9.)
- * William Sleator's *Singularity* is about twin hrothers Barry and Harry, who discover a "playhouse" where time travels faster than anywhere else. (Ages 10 and up.)

Children's Non-Fiction

- 16 In Patricia McMahon's *Chi-Hoan: A Korean Girl,* an 8-year-old girl tries to win an award for her heliavior, celebrates holidays with her family, and enjoys various aspects of the changing Korean culture (Ages 7–9.)
- ** Bees Dance and Whales Sing, hy Margery Facklam, describes echolocation, infrasonic sound, sign language, and other modes of communication in the animal world. (Ages 7–10.)
- ** Henry Moore: From Bones and Stones to Sketches and Sculptures, by Jane Mylum Gardner, shows the famous English sculptor at work in his studio and details his creative process. (Ages 7–10.)



An Open Invitation: A moval on the side of the Noe Valley Library reminds readers that the branch is still a fertile part of the Tree of Knowledge. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

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Advance tickets: Aquarius Records, 3961 24th Street 647-2272 or by mail from S.F. Live Arts, P.O. Box 2157, Berkeley, CA 94702

P O E M

THE DAYS OF OCTOBER

By Thea Hornor

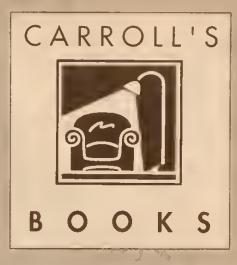
In October when the wind howls and a light rain falls from the darkening sky, alone, a child peers out of a small window and watches a golden leaf flutter quietly down....

down....
Down onto the cold sidewalk where it settles with the others
The child slowly turns her head away and walks quickly out of sight.

Eleven-year-old Thea Hornor lives at Army and Castro.







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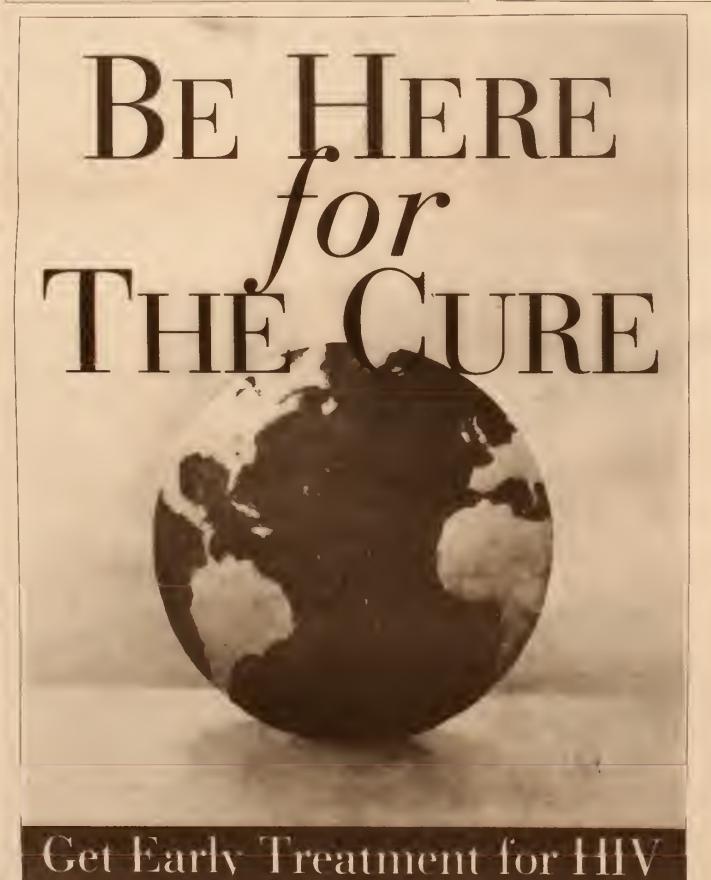
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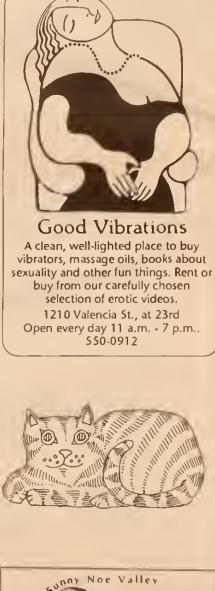
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SACRED SOUND CIRCLE: Music for meditation/ healing. Simple chants, toning, movement. No experience necessary. All welcomed. Second and fourth Mondays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Bethany Methodist Church, Sanchez/Clipper. Freewill donation. Information: Kristopher, 621-4099.

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HATHA YOGA COURSE CLASS. In this course, the emphasis is on physical postures, breathing, relaxation, and introductory meditation. Taught by Shankari Rise, and Rum Vignola. Six Wednesdays, beginning Nov. 10, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$35. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 94110, 821-1117.

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IRISH MOTHER of 10-month-old baby girl available for full-time child care of one other child in my Noe Valley home, 826-8839.

VIDEO NIGHT. See a video of Sri Swami Satchidananda, informal discussion, tea and cookies. Led by Tom Billings. Friday, Nov. 12, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S F

SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN meets weekly in Noe Valley. Professionally facilitated group explores relationship issues, personal growth, changing self-defeating behaviors, achieving goals. Matre Farrington, M. F.C. C. No. 24893, 282-5965.

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The rate for classified advertising in the Noe Valley Voice is 25¢ a word, Just type or print your copy, multiply the number of words by 25¢ (we trust you), enclose a check or money order for the full amount, and mail it to us by the 15th of the month preceding the month of issue.

Please let us know whether your ad is a renewal from a previous issue. (But be sure to give us the full ad copy, in any case.)

Recession Discount: The Voice comes out 10 times a year----we don't publish in January and August. If you decide to place the same class ad in 10 issues (a year's worth), you are entitled to a 10 percent discount. Just deduct 10 percent from the total amount due for 10 issues.

To be sure to be included in the December 1993/January 1994 issue, which will be on the streets Dec. 1, 1993, please mail your ad and a check made payable to the Noe Valley Voice so that we receive it by Nov. 15. Our address is 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Sorry, but we are unable to accept phone or drop-in orders.

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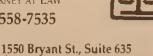
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CALENDAR

OCT. 30: The SCAREHOUSE, for kids 7 and up, begins its "Night to Dismember" at 6 pm and remains haunted untit 9. Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day & Sanchez. 695-5011.

OCT. 31: The "Haunted House Lady," Marilyn Lucas, hosts The 13th annual Noe Valley HAUNTED HOUSE from 5-8.30 pm on the 300 block of Hottman Ave (between 24th & Elizabeth). Lucas Reatly, 285-6265

NOV. 1: S F Community College otlers a tree eight-week COURSE, "From Love and Relationship Addiction to Intimacy" 6 30 pm Everett Middle School, 450 Church St. 585-5212

NOV. 1: The Sri Chinmoy Centre leads a tree beginning MEDITATION session at 8ethany Church 7 8 pm 201 Clipper St 564-2161.

NOV. 2: It's ELECTIDN OAY, polls are open 7 am to 8 pm 554-4375

NOV. 2, 4, 16 & 18: Health Center No 1 otters low-cost FLU SHOTS for seniors 8.30 11 am. 3850 17th St 554-9750

NOV. 2, 9, 23 & 30: Preschool STORY TIME at the Noe Valley Library starts 10 am 451 Jersey St 695-5095

NOV. 3: J Otto Seibold and Vivian Walsh sign their CHILDREN'S BDOK, Mr Lunch Takes a Plane Ride. 6–8 pm. Cover to Cover, 3910 24th St. 282-8080

NOV. 3–7: The Film Arts Foundation's annual testival showcases the best and weirdest of Bay Area FILM/VIDEO Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St. Call 552-FILM for a schedule

NOV. 3, 10 & 17: The Noe Valley Library otters LAPStTS for intants, toddlers, and parents. 7 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

NOV. 4: Marshall Klaus, M.D., and Phyllis Klaus, M. Ed., give a TALK on "Mothering the Mother." 7–9 pm. Natural Resources, 4081 24th St. 550-2611.

NOV. 4 & 11: Moms, dads, and babies can learn how to start a PLAYGROUP on Nov 4 (6 15 mos.) or Nov 11 (16–24 mos.) Noon–1 pm. Natural Resources, 4081 24th St. 550-2611.

NOV. 5: Cover to Cover hosts an "American Girls" PARTY with Valerie Tripp, author of the *Molly* and *Felicity* historical picture books 3–5 pm. 3910 24lh St. 282-8080

NOV. 5: Andrea Weiss leads a seminar and shows lilm clips on "LESBIAN/ VAMPIRE Lovers" 8 pm. Castro Theater, 429 Castro St. 621-6120

NOV. 6: Career counselor Ltoyda French otters a WORKSHOP tor midlite women, "Surviving Rejection" 10 am-noon Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 431-6405

NOV. 6: SI Luke's Hospital's tree GOOD HEALTH seminars continue with Or Norman Miller's discussion of "Prostate The Mystery Organ" 10:30 am noon. 3555 Army St. Calt 821-OOCS for required reservations. NOV. 6 & DEC. 4: Natural Resources holds two sessions on intant CPR 1–4:30 pm. 4081 24th St. 550-2611.

NOV. 6: Comedian/singer 8rian Lohmann, aka Johnny Lonely, joins Debbie Durst and Mike Bossier in an evening of improv COMEDY. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St 647-2272.

NOV. 6 & 7: A benetil GARAGE SALE tor the Animal Wettare Association teatures housewares, jewelry, books, and pet toys. 10 am-4 pm 1420 Douglass St 771-1649

NOV. 6 & 7: The S F Bay Area BOOK FESTIVAL otters readings and discussion by more than 200 authors. 10 am 6 pm Concourse Exhibition Center, 635 Eighth St 861-BOOK

NOV. 6-OEC. 4: ARTISTS David Robertson and Charles Schmatz exhibit their work in "What Matter?" Reception Nov 20, 2, 4 pm Gallery Sanchez, 1021 Sanchez St. 641-9895.

NOV. 7: Community Music Center laculty perform a CONCERT of eclectic music 4 pm 544 Capp St 647-6015

NOV. 8: The Diamond Senior Center's birthday party begins with lunch at noon. 117 Diamond St 863-3507

NOV. 8: Suzanne Fisher Staples will show slides from a trip to Pakislan and sign her books for young adults, *Shabanu* and *Haveli*. 1–3 pm. Cover to Cover, 3910 24th St. 282-8080



tie, a short film by Noe Valley directorproducer M Len Keller, will be included in the Film Arts Festival, running Nov 3–7 at the Roxie Cinema.

NOV. 10: Coro Hispano de San Francisco performs a Dia De Los Muertos CONCERT. 7:30 pm. César Chavez School, Folsom St. between 22nd & 23rd 431-4234

NOV. 11: OPTIONS for Women Over Forty teaches resume-writing techniques at a WORKSHOP for midlife women 6–9 pm Women's Building, 3543 18th St 431-6405

NOV. 11-13 & 18-20: Dancers' Group/Footwork presents Junge & Co. in a OANCE "Journey" 8.30 pm. 3221 22nd St 824-5044

NOV. 12: Concentric Media hosts "A8ORTION Then and Now," an evening of video, readings, and discussion 7 30 pm. New College, 766 Valencia St 321-1533 or 552-4129

NOV. 12: Noe Valley resident Stephen Vincent reads and signs his new book of POETRY, *Walking* 8 pm. Carroll's Books, 1193 Church St. 647-3020



Brian Lohmann, in the persona of Johnny Lonely, performs the 'world's most depressing lounge act' at the Noe Valley Music Series Nov 6

NOVEMBER 1993

NOV. 13: Alvarado Elementary School

hosts an OPEN HOUSE for current and

am 1 pm. 625 Oouglass St 695-5695

NOV. 13: Intersection for the Arts ofters

literary gems for all ages at its BOOK

SALE lundraiser, Noon-4 pm. 446

NOV. 13: Feminist author NAOM!

to Cover, 3910 24th St. 282-8080

pm. Roy Oerrick, 282-4007

NOV. 13: Neighborhood bands will

WOLF discusses her books The Beauty

Myth and Fire with Fire 3-4 pm. Cover

NOV. 13: Noe Valley MOVIES spotlights

tantasy and science liction from Eng-

land, including Hammer Films' X the

Unknown (1956) 7.30 pm Noe Valley

Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St 282-2317

workshop. 7 30-9 pm. Integrat Yoga

NOV. 13: A RECITAL by mezzo-soprano

Shawn Marie Williams and pianist Janis

Community Music Center, 544 Capp St

Capelle's includes work by Oebussy.

Woll, Rorem, and Rossini 8 pm.

NOV. 13 & 14: Do your holiday

shopping early at the Dominican

Iorium, 3625 24th St 824-2052.

benefit CHRISTMAS

BOUTIOUE 10 am 4 pm. ICA Audi-

647-6015

Institute, 770 Dotores St 821-1117

to a Healthy Back Through YOGA"

NOV. 13: Ernie Vasques leads a "Path

Valencia St. 626-2787

prospective students and parents. 10

NOV. 13 & 20: Natural Resources' PARENTING series continues with "Transitions to Parenthood" Nov 13 and "Breastleeding Success" Nov 20 10 am-noon. 4081 24th St. 550-2611

NOV. 14: The Noe Valley Chamber Music Series presents Sonus Imaginarum, performing a CONCERT of works by Haydn, Britten, and Kodaly on viola, cello, oboe, and two violins. 2 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317

NOV. 14: Alexander Technique teacher Kathryn Zimmerman teads a posture, respiration, and vocal WORKSHOP 2–4 pm. 1082 Sanchez St. 328–0697

NOV. 14: The Church of Holy Innocents presents HARPSICHOROIST Katherine Roberts Perl performing music by F Couperin and J.S. Bach. 4 pm. 455 Fair Daks St. 824-5142

NOV. 16: FILMS for preschoolers are shown at 10 and 11 am, for kids 6 and up at 3:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

NOV. 19: Marilee Heyer signs her illustrated children's BOOKS *Weaving of a Dream* and *Iron Hans*. 6–8 pm. Cover to Cover, 3910 24th St. 282-8080.

NOV. 19: The Celtic FIDDLING OUO of Athena Tergis and Laura Risk perform a concert co-sponsored by S.F. Scottish Country Dancers, 8 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 510-540-7716

NOV. 20: "Cultivating a Personal Practice" is the Iheme of a YOGA workshop taught by Dawn Summers. 10 am-1 pm. Center for Movement Education, 98 Chenery St. 648-2432

NOV. 20: Tools for Change presents Margo Adair's WORKSHOP on "Alliance Building" 11 am 7 pm Call 861-6347 for information

NOV. 20: Learn to make decorative hotiday papers for cards and gifts at a HANDMADE PAPER workshop. Sign up at 12.30 pm; class begins 1 pm. Randall Museum, 199 Museum Way 554-9600.

NOV. 20: THE PERSUASIONS a cappetta stars perform at the Noe Valley Music Series 7 30 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272

NOV. 22: Laura Numeroll, author of the CHILDREN'S BOOK *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, signs her latest, *Dogs Don't Wear Sneakers* 4–6 pm. 3910 24th St. 282-8080

NOV. 25: Please bring a dish to share (no fish, eggs, or meat) to Integrat Yogas THANKSGIVING Family Oay. 10 am-2 pm. 770 Dolores St. 821-1117

NOV. 27: Psychic Horizons gives a Iree PSYCHIC HEALING FAIR from 2 to 4 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 346-7906

NOV. 27: The Randatl Museum welcomes all ages to a post-Thanksgiving OISCUSSION of what the animals that live at the museum eat and why. 12:30 pm. 199 Museum Way, 554-9600.

NOV. 30: PUB POETRY at Keane's 3300 Club features Eugene Ruggles and an open mike session. 3300 Mission St. 826-6886 or 824-0835.



Jersey Street poet Michael Palmer will join a host of writers at the Bay Area BOOK Festival Nov. 6 & 7 PHOTO BY THOMAS VICTOR

perform rock, blues, Latin, soul, and lolk at the Noe Valley MUStC FESTIVAL, taking place at tour 24th and Church Street bars: Noe's, Ihe First Ining, the Cork in Bottle, and Jack's Taps. 2–8 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

NOV. 15 & 16: Jan Zobel leads a two-evening SEMINAR on bookkeeping and taxes for self-employed people. 7 9.30 pm. 1197 Valencia St 821-1015.



Junge & Co take their "Journey" to Footwork Nov. 11-13 and 18-20.





The Scoop on Calendar

Please send calendar ilems before the 15th day of the month preceding the month of issue to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority